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Medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005

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Note

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Preface

1. The proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 was issued in 2000 in separate fascicles (A/55/6 (Introduction) and A/55/6 (Progs. 1-25)).

2. The proposed plan was reviewed by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its fortieth session[1] and by relevant sectoral, functional and regional bodies, in accordance with their respective mandates and the relevant Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation (ST/SGB/2000/8). The General Assembly, at its fifty-fifth session, considered the proposed plan, the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the letters from the Chairmen of the Main Committees of the General Assembly (A/C.5/55/18-20, A/C.5/55/20/Add.1 and A/C.5/55/22).

3. In its resolution 55/234 of 23 December 2000, the General Assembly adopted the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, together with the relevant recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the additional conclusions and recommendations contained in the annex to that resolution.

4. The medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, as adopted by the General Assembly, is reproduced in the present document.

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[1] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 16* (A/55/16).

[23 January 2001]

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Introduction

A. Submission

1. The present medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 has been prepared in compliance with the provisions of article IV of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation (ST/SGB/2000/8), hereinafter referred to as the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning.

B. Challenges for the period 2002-2005

2. The phenomenon of globalization presents the single most important set of challenges facing the Organization in the years ahead. The successful management of change in our global world calls for effective responses to ensure that the benefits of globalization may be secured while minimizing and ameliorating the associated risks and problems. While globalization and interdependence are opening new opportunities, through trade, investment and capital flows and advancements in technology, for the growth of the world economy and for the development and improvement of living standards around the world, there are associated risks of marginalization. Such risks are the result not only of change in itself, but also of the speed with which changes are brought about by globalization. In addition, transboundary problems have been accentuated with globalization, as reflected in crime, narcotics, terrorism, pollution, disease, armaments, refugees and migrants. The Organization must respond to these growing challenges using both the benefits of new technology and better mechanisms to ensure effective collective responses.

3. Globalization is drawing further attention to the persistent problems of extreme poverty and inequality, the unsustainability of current patterns of development and the diverse network of difficulties faced by Africa. In many cases emerging and persistent problems, and the combination thereof, prove to be not only global but also multidimensional. The broad range of challenges covers peace and security as well as humanitarian, developmental, environmental, social and human rights issues, which are intricately interconnected and therefore call for solutions that involve the same level of complexity. This creates a true organizational challenge for the international community, namely, to ensure that institutional responses are effectively planned and implemented.

C. Policy orientation and strategy

4. The Organization's response to the broad range of challenges to be faced in the plan period will call for an action-oriented approach at the intergovernmental level and, in support of this approach, at the Secretariat level as well. Effective planning will be essential to ensure an integrated approach, which will depend heavily upon mutually reinforcing contributions from the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council and the Secretariat. The medium-term plan offers an opportunity for reflection before choices are made among the various types of action possible, for assessing what is feasible and for deriving from this assessment objectives that are both feasible and politically acceptable to Member States.

5. Special attention will have to be placed on developing coherent, comprehensive approaches to crises. In the field of peace and security, the programmes for political affairs, disarmament and peacekeeping will aim to ensure fewer conflicts and to settle peacefully those that do arise, working in tandem with the humanitarian and human rights programmes in their efforts to ensure respect for international humanitarian and human rights law and to protect civilians from violations of that law. Post-conflict situations will call for peacekeeping operations, for effective programmes to ensure a smooth transition from humanitarian relief to reconstruction and development and for special political missions in support of peace-building activities, including, where relevant and requested, electoral assistance. The growing incidence and impact of natural disasters will also require dedicated attention, with respect to prevention and mitigation as well as to humanitarian response and post-disaster rehabilitation and recovery. All of these situations will demand closer coordination of both intergovernmental and Secretariat actors.

6. In the economic and social spheres, both the General Assembly and the Economic and Social

Council may be expected to continue to address trade, development, technological, financial, gender, poverty, population, environmental and human rights issues, especially as they relate to globalization.[1] Action to follow up on the high-level international intergovernmental event on financing for development, envisaged for 2001, may be expected to provide an impetus for better handling of globalization and related developmental issues in the coming years. Similarly, action to be taken under the General Assembly agenda item entitled "Globalization and interdependence" can also be expected to provide further guidance as to how the Organization will proceed in this field. In the medium-term plan, continuing work is foreseen for the regional commissions, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs to assist with the integration of developing countries and countries with economies in transition into the world economy.

7. The medium-term plan reflects an increased awareness of the need to be gender-sensitive when designing programmes, projects and activities. There is recognition that the work of the Organization may have a different impact on different target groups, including both women and men. The majority of programmes address gender questions. Some of these reflect a conscious effort to demonstrate gender sensitivity in the approach to be taken in implementing the programme as a whole. In other programmes, the question of gender mainstreaming has been identified for work related to statistics and data collection, research and analysis, formulation of policy options, post-conflict peace-building, deployment strategies in peacekeeping operations, advocacy strategies, training and technical cooperation. In those cases, the interests, experiences, priorities and needs of both women and men have been taken into account as an integral part of the design of the subprogrammes, thereby facilitating the eventual design of the activities to be implemented at the operational level of the programme budgets.

8. A common theme across most programmes is the intent to make best use of technological developments in order to enhance the effectiveness of the Organization's activities. While the common support services programme highlights the development of a long-term strategy for information technology, the intention to apply modern technology is common to all programmes. A number of programmes already make extensive use of the Internet, including the public information programme and the humanitarian programme, which has developed ReliefWeb as a major tool for coordinating humanitarian aid.

D. Methodology and format of the medium-term plan

9. The medium-term plan constitutes the foundation of the programme planning, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation cycle of the United Nations. As a translation of legislative mandates into programmes and subprogrammes, the plan provides the principal policy directives of the United Nations. The medium-term plan also serves as a framework for the formulation of the biennial programme budgets within the plan period and for the evaluation of programmes.

10. The medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 follows the format requirements set out in the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, as revised by the General Assembly in its resolution 53/207 of 18 December 1998. Most of these requirements are not new. Nevertheless, while most components had been included in the revised medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001, they were not applied consistently throughout the plan, nor were they separately identified as such. The present medium-term plan seeks to improve the presentation of programmes by maintaining consistency in the structure of the programmes and by introducing more coherence in formulating the required components, in full compliance with the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning.

11. Concerns expressed by Member States confirm the widely perceived need to be informed about the effectiveness and impact of the Organization's work and the current deficiencies of the programme planning cycle in meeting that need. Shortcomings in distinguishing true objectives from activities at the planning stage have resulted in difficulties in assessing the degree of implementation of the programmes and the achievements of the Organization.

12. The medium-term plan and the improvements in its presentation are an effort to overcome those difficulties and to provide, through a more coherent

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[1] The General Assembly, at its fifty-fourth session, adopted 20 resolutions that linked these issues with the phenomenon of globalization. Two of them, resolutions 54/165 and 54/231, focused on globalization.

and consistent programme formulation stage, a more focused road map and a solid foundation for evaluation and feedback. Its purpose is to facilitate discussion by Member States on the overall direction of programmes at the policy level, rather than on detailed activities of each department at the implementation level. To optimize the use of the medium-term plan in the programme planning cycle of the United Nations, further programming and performance management skills need to be developed, and the Secretary-General intends to reinforce staff training in those areas.

13. Each programme is introduced by a section describing its overall orientation, which covers its objectives and the strategy to be followed at the programme level. For each subprogramme, the medium-term plan describes the objective, strategy, expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement. An attempt has been made to capture the essence of each programme and subprogramme with respect to the raison d'être of the work undertaken by the Organization. The formulation of the components outlined below has been kept simple and succinct.

14. These components have not been formulated in isolation from each other, but are in fact part of a conceptual framework that shows a causal relationship among them. The objectives constitute the foundation for programme design. The strategy explains how those objectives can be attained through the implementation of certain types of activities. Expected accomplishments, included for the first time in a medium-term plan pursuant to the recently revised Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, meet the need for specificity, and can be conceived of as concrete benefits that result from pursuing the objective. Indicators of achievement should be closely linked to the expected accomplishments in order to provide information on whether those expectations have been met. Each of these components is described more fully below.

Objective

15. The objectives express the overall desired achievement of each programme and subprogramme. They have been formulated to bring about observable change rather than as a description of an ongoing activity, while keeping in mind the different nature of servicing and substantive activities. In keeping with regulation 4.2, objectives are derived from the policy orientations and goals set by the intergovernmental organs.

16. Efforts have also been made to formulate the objectives at the level of the Organization as a whole rather than at the level of intergovernmental or Secretariat action only. Responsibility for programme implementation is neither the exclusive preserve of Member States (individually or in intergovernmental organs) nor of the Secretariat. It is a collective responsibility, and success in achieving objectives and in producing expected accomplishments as measured by indicators of achievement will in part be a measure of the degree of success of the international community, working in a harmonious partnership between Member States and the Secretariat.

Strategy

17. The strategy describes the approach that will be taken to achieve the objective. It is not a detailed listing of activities or outputs, but rather a description of the course of action or the types of activities that will be undertaken. Strategies are designed on the assumption that, external factors permitting, the types of activities selected would lead to the fulfilment of the objective.

18. Strategies will generally involve one or more of the following types of activities: increasing awareness and understanding, undertaking research and analyses, setting norms and promoting compliance, facilitating negotiations and providing a forum for dialogue, advocacy and technical cooperation.

Expected accomplishments

19. Expected accomplishments are the only truly new component in programme planning as it affects the medium-term plan, and have been included pursuant to regulation 5.4 adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 54/236 of 23 December 1999 on the basis of the recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its thirty-ninth session.[2]

20. New subparagraph a (iii) of rule 105.4 (which is intended to give further guidance in the implementation of regulation 5.4) defines expected accomplishments in relation to other concepts, namely by describing them as those benefits or changes expected to accrue to users

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[2] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 16* (A/54/16).

or beneficiaries through the delivery of final outputs, and by providing that the expected accomplishments should be in conformity with and lead to the fulfilment of the objectives established in the programmes and subprogrammes. Expected accomplishments are therefore intended to meet the need for more specificity in the orientation of the Organization.

21. In the present medium-term plan, the expected accomplishments have been formulated in a way that would facilitate the subsequent assessment of progress made towards them. The tools for making such an assessment would be the indicators of achievement.

22. While there may be many expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement, a selection has been made of those that are representative of the programmes and subprogrammes.

Indicators of achievement

23. In relation to the achievement of objectives, rule 104.7 requires that indicators of achievement be given where possible. The present medium-term plan contains proposed indicators of achievement for all subprogrammes.

24. Since the expected accomplishments set forth concrete and specific expectations and are therefore more suited for subsequent measurement, indicators of achievement are generally aligned with the expected accomplishments rather than the objectives.

25. The formulation of indicators of achievement is not a new requirement under the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning. Nevertheless, implementation of this request has remained dormant, as previous medium-term plans did not systematically establish measures for performance assessment. The provision of indicators is a first step in using them as an operational tool and could be used as a basis for developing indicators applicable to the programme budget.

E. Priorities for the period 2002-2005

26. The persistent problems and challenges of the future identified in the current plan period will continue to be both valid and relevant to the Organization over the next four-year period. Accordingly, no change in the priority areas identified in the revised medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001[3] seems required at this point. The Secretary-General therefore proposes that the following areas of work be given priority in the period 2002-2005:

(a) Maintenance of international peace and security;

(b) Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences;

(c) Development of Africa;

(d) Promotion of human rights;

(e) Effective coordination of humanitarian assistance efforts;

(f) Promotion of justice and international law;

(g) Disarmament;

(h) Drug control, crime prevention and combating international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations.

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[3] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/53/6/Rev.1).

Programme 1
Political affairs

Overall orientation

1.1 The overall objective of the programme is to assist States involved in dispute or conflicts to resolve their differences peacefully in accordance with the principles of the Charter and resolutions of the United Nations and, wherever possible, to prevent conflicts from arising through preventive diplomacy and peacemaking. The direction of the programme is provided in the pertinent resolutions of the General Assembly and the mandates of the Security Council, which has the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security. Within the Secretariat, substantive responsibility for the programme is vested in the Department of Political Affairs.

1.2 The strategy in meeting the programme's objectives is designed around five subprogrammes and is based on the development of a more efficient mechanism for preventing and resolving conflicts through peaceful means. The activities to be implemented relate to early warning, preventive diplomacy, peacemaking and post-conflict peace-building, electoral assistance and provision of substantive support to policy-making organs, such as the Security Council and its subsidiary bodies, the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People. These activities constitute the core functions of the Department of Political Affairs and together represent interdependent and complementary components of a comprehensive conflict-prevention, conflict-management and peace-building approach.

1.3 The Department will strive in particular to reinforce the Organization's capacity for early warning, good offices and non-military measures to prevent disputes from escalating into conflicts, as well as to resolve conflicts that have erupted, while fully respecting the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of Member States and the principles of non-intervention in matters that are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any State and of consent, which is an essential element for the success of such efforts. The Department will also endeavour to enhance its capacity with regard to the political aspects of peace-building, as approved by the relevant intergovernmental bodies.

1.4 Special attention will also be given to incorporating a gender perspective into the work of this programme, in accordance with relevant resolutions of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly.

Subprogramme 1
Prevention, control and resolution of conflicts

Objective

1.5 The objective of this subprogramme is to assist in the prevention, control and resolution of conflicts through peaceful means as well as to promote a more cohesive and integrated response by the United Nations system in addressing post-conflict peace-building challenges facing countries emerging from crisis.

Strategy

1.6 Within the Department of Political Affairs, the substantive responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in the regional divisions, assisted by the Policy Planning Unit. Political developments relevant to international peace and security worldwide will be monitored and assessed for the purpose of identifying options and formulating recommendations on the role that the United Nations may be called upon to play in the prevention, control and resolution of conflicts as well as in the area of post-conflict peace-building activities. Activities of the subprogramme will also involve assistance in the preparation of and participation in special missions (fact-finding, goodwill, good offices) dispatched by the Security Council or by the Secretary-General. To this end, information collection and analysis and early warning activities with respect to potential and actual conflicts that threaten international peace and security will be undertaken and utilized to enhance the capacity of the Secretariat, Member States and intergovernmental organizations, especially regional organizations with which the United Nations cooperates, in accordance with the provisions of Chapter VIII of the Charter and where permitted given the mandate and scope of regional arrangements and agencies, to ensure the maintenance of international peace and security. Pursuant to decisions of the General Assembly and/or the Security Council, and with the agreement of the Member States concerned where appropriate, action will be taken to organize, direct and execute special political missions as and when necessary.

Expected accomplishments

1.7 An expected accomplishment would be improved capability of the international community in the prevention, control and resolution of conflicts through preventive diplomacy, peacemaking and post-conflict peace-building activities.

Indicators of achievement

1.8 Indicators of achievement would include identification of the potential, new and ongoing conflicts addressed and/or settled through peaceful means and an increase in the level and effectiveness of post-conflict peace-building activities.

Subprogramme 2
Electoral assistance

Objective

1.9 The objective of this subprogramme is to render electoral assistance to Member States, on their request and in accordance with the relevant decisions of the Security Council and the General Assembly, through the provision of necessary technical and advisory support in coordinating their electoral activities.

Strategy

1.10 Within the Department of Political Affairs, the substantive responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in the Electoral Assistance Division, which provides the leading role of all United Nations electoral assistance activities. The General Assembly, acknowledging that United Nations electoral assistance has facilitated the holding of successful elections in several Member States, has encouraged the Secretary-General to respond to the evolving nature of requests for assistance and the growing need for specific types of medium-term expert assistance aimed at supporting and strengthening the existing capacity of requesting Governments, in particular through enhancing the capacity of national electoral institutions. The subprogramme will be implemented through the provision of technical advice, including training, upon request by Member States, on the democratization process, electoral laws, election organization and administration, as well as the strengthening of national electoral institutions. In addition guidelines, training materials and technical papers will be prepared. The Division will undertake needs assessments, formulate projects and establish partnerships with intergovernmental expert bodies, regional associations of electoral bodies, regional organizations and organizations of the United Nations system to ensure more comprehensive and needs-specific responses to requests for electoral assistance.

Expected accomplishments

1.11 The technical capacity of Member States requesting assistance for the conduct of elections in accordance with the relevant resolutions and decisions would be enhanced.

Indicators of achievement

1.12 An indicator of achievement would be the provision of electoral assistance to Member States in response to their request.

Subprogramme 3
Security Council affairs

Objective

1.13 The primary objective of this subprogramme is to provide advice and substantive services to the Security Council and its subsidiary organs.

Strategy

1.14 Within the Department, the responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in the Security Council Affairs Division, which will provide support to the Security Council and its subsidiary organs, in particular the sanctions committees, fact-finding missions and informal working groups, and to the Military Staff Committee. Substantive support will take the form of provision of advice in accordance with the Charter, the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, the Council's decisions and past practice; research and analysis; preparation of reports; follow-up of the implementation of the Council's decisions; the timely issuance of parliamentary documentation and communications in accordance with the relevant decisions of the Council and its programme of work; liaison with presiding officers and members; and effective coordination of the meetings of the Council and its consultations and of meetings of subsidiary organs and working groups. Substantive support will also include research and analysis in connection with the implementation and effectiveness of mandatory measures or sanctions imposed by the Council and their impact on the population in target and third countries. In view of this impact, the evolution of the concept of "smart" sanctions, including the use and implementation of targeted financial sanctions, arms embargoes, travel bans and other similar measures will continue to be addressed, keeping in view Article 50 of the Charter. Special economic problems of affected third States will also be duly taken into account. Work will also continue to be undertaken on the constitutional and procedural issues related to the interpretation and application of the Charter and the Security Council's provisional rules of procedure for the *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council* and on the relevant Articles of the Charter for the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs*.

Expected accomplishments

1.15 Decision-making by the Security Council would be facilitated through effective substantive services and support.

Indicators of achievement

1.16 An indicator of achievement would be the degree of satisfaction expressed by members of the Security Council in the services provided by the Secretariat.

Subprogramme 4
Decolonization

Objective

1.17 The objective of the subprogramme is to promote the decolonization process in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and relevant resolutions of the General Assembly for the 17 remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories so as to bring about the complete eradication of colonialism.

1.18 Another objective is to strengthen the dissemination of information on decolonization in order to mobilize world opinion and to ensure the provision of assistance by the specialized agencies and institutions associated with the United Nations to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories.

Strategy

1.19 The Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples will continue to examine the application of the Declaration and to seek suitable means for its immediate and full implementation in all Territories that have not yet exercised their rights in accordance with the Charter and relevant resolutions of the General Assembly. It will formulate specific proposals to this effect, examine compliance with the Declaration and other resolutions, formulate specific proposals for the elimination of the remaining manifestations of colonialism and report thereon to the Assembly, and enlist worldwide support for decolonization. The Special Committee will continue to dispatch visiting missions periodically to colonial Territories, in consultation with the administering Powers, to enable the Special Committee to obtain first-hand information on conditions in those Territories; examine the views, expressed orally or in writing, of peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, as well as the views of the representatives of non-governmental organizations and individuals with a knowledge of conditions in those Territories; and assist the Assembly in making arrangements, in cooperation with the administering Powers, to secure a United Nations presence in the Non-Self-Governing Territories to observe or supervise the final stages of the process of decolonization.

1.20 In supporting the Special Committee in the implementation of its mandate, the Decolonization Unit of the Department of Political Affairs will provide substantive services to the Special Committee and its visiting and other missions as well as to the General Assembly when they review issues relating to decolonization; undertake research, analytical studies and reports on conditions in the Territories; provide assistance to the Special Committee in the preparation of its reports to the Assembly; collect, review and disseminate basic material, studies and articles relating to decolonization; promote flows of assistance from specialized agencies and institutions associated with the United Nations to the people in the Non-Self-Governing Territories; and promote, in cooperation with the Department of Public Information, a publicity campaign on decolonization. Subject to the relevant decisions of the Special Committee, this will entail organizing panel discussions and seminars, producing and disseminating publications, organizing exhibits and coordinating international activities aimed at the elimination of colonialism, including maintaining liaison with international organizations and individuals concerned with the problems of decolonization.

1.21 The Department of Political Affairs will also conduct research and prepare analytical studies on the application and interpretation of the relevant articles of the Charter related to activities of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, their subsidiary organs and ad hoc bodies and the Trusteeship Council in the areas of trusteeship and decolonization for inclusion in the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs*.

Expected accomplishments

1.22 Accomplishments would be the provision of services to the Special Committee, its seminars and the General Assembly; the production of effective research, analytical studies and reports on conditions in the Territories; the execution of effective publicity campaigns; and the provision of efficient assistance by specialized agencies and institutions associated with the United Nations to the people in the Non-Self-Governing Territories.

1.23 Accomplishments would also include progress made in the decolonization process in accordance with United Nations resolutions.

Indicators of achievement

1.24 Indicators of achievement would be:

(a) The effectiveness of servicing provided to the Special Committee, its seminars and the General Assembly; the effectiveness of research and analytical studies and reports on conditions in the Territories; the effectiveness of publicity campaigns; and the efficiency of assistance from specialized agencies and institutions associated with the United Nations to the people in the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

(b) The degree of satisfaction expressed by Member States with the services provided by the Secretariat;

(c) The level of progress made in the decolonization process in accordance with United Nations resolutions.

Subprogramme 5
Question of Palestine

Objective

1.25 The objective of the subprogramme is to enable the Palestinian people to exercise their inalienable rights.

Strategy

1.26 Within the Department, the substantive responsibility for implementing the subprogramme is vested in the Division for Palestinian Rights. The question of Palestine was first considered by the General Assembly in 1947. By its resolution 3376 (XXX) of 10 November 1975, the Assembly established the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People. Substantive and technical support will be provided to the Committee in its deliberations and its annual programmes of work. Assistance will also be provided to the Committee in promoting a comprehensive, just and lasting settlement of the question of Palestine in accordance with all relevant United Nations resolutions as well as the full and effective implementation of the Israeli-Palestinian peace agreements. Assistance will also be provided to the Committee in mobilizing international support and assistance for the Palestinian people. The peace process is expected to result in a negotiated settlement of all outstanding issues. Supportive action by the United Nations will continue until all aspects of the question of Palestine are resolved in a satisfactory manner in accordance with international legitimacy. Under the auspices of the Committee, thematic international meetings and conferences will be convened to increase awareness of the question of Palestine and to promote dialogue among the parties concerned, including Governments, intergovernmental organizations, United Nations bodies, non-governmental organizations and representatives of civil society. In addition, and for the same purposes, informational materials on the question of Palestine will be developed and updated under the guidance of the Committee, including through the United Nations information system on the question of Palestine and its Internet sites.

Expected accomplishments

1.27 Through the work of the Division, the Committee would be able to generate heightened international awareness of the question of Palestine, as well as international support for and consensus on the question of Palestine.

Indicators of achievement

1.28 An indicator of achievement would be an increase in the level of support from the international community for the subprogramme's objectives.

Legislative mandates

Subprogramme 1
Prevention, control and resolution of conflicts

Charter of the United Nations, in particular Article 99

General Assembly resolutions

47/120 A	An Agenda for Peace: preventive diplomacy and related matters
47/120 B	An Agenda for Peace
52/12 A and B	Renewing the United Nations: a programme for reform
53/9	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of American States
53/17	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community
54/7	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference
54/9	Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States
54/12	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union
54/35	Zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic
54/94	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity
54/117	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe
54/186	Situation of human rights in Myanmar
54/227	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Community

Security Council resolutions on mandates established by the Council for questions relating to the maintenance of international peace and security

Subprogramme 2
Electoral assistance

General Assembly resolution

54/173	Strengthening the role of the United Nations in enhancing the effectiveness of the principle of periodic and genuine elections and the promotion of democratization

Subprogramme 3
Security Council affairs

Charter of the United Nations, in particular Articles 1, 7, 24 and 29

Security Council resolutions and decisions pertaining to the establishment and mandates of the subsidiary organs created by the Council under the terms of Article 29 of the Charter of the United Nations

Subprogramme 4
Decolonization

1514 (XV)	Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples
1654 (XVI)	The situation with regard to the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples
2621 (XXV)	Programme of action for the full implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples
51/209	Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization
52/161	Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization
52/220	Questions relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999
54/83	Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73*e* of the Charter of the United Nations
54/84	Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories
54/85	Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations
54/86	Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories
54/91	Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples
54/92	Dissemination of information on decolonization

Subprogramme 5
Question of Palestine

General Assembly resolutions

3376 (XXX)	Question of Palestine
32/40 B	Question of Palestine
34/65 D	Question of Palestine
38/58 B	Question of Palestine
46/74 B	Question of Palestine
54/39	Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People
54/40	Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat
54/41	Special information programme on the question of Palestine of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat
54/42	Peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine

Programme 2
Disarmament

Overall orientation

2.1 General and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control remains the ultimate goal of all efforts exerted in the field of disarmament. The main responsibilities for disarmament lie with Member States, and the United Nations, in accordance with its Charter, has a central role and primary responsibility in supporting Member States in this sphere.

2.2 The mandate for the programme derives from the priorities established in relevant General Assembly resolutions and decisions in the field of disarmament, including the Final Document of the tenth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament (resolution S-10/2). While weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, continue to be the primary concern, the Organization would also continue its work in the field of conventional disarmament.

2.3 Within the Secretariat, substantive responsibility for the programme is vested in the Department for Disarmament Affairs. The Department's strategy for implementing the programme is based on its role and responsibility for facilitating and encouraging, as appropriate, disarmament measures at all levels. It will continue to assist Member States in promoting, strengthening and consolidating multilaterally negotiated principles and norms in all the fields of disarmament. The Department will make every effort to ensure that when multilateral agreements in the field of disarmament are negotiated, they will be universally acceptable. It will promote transparency based on the principle of undiminished security for all and confidence-building measures in the field of disarmament. It will expand its outreach activities, including through its web site on the Internet, to ensure the exchange of impartial and factual information on disarmament and security-related matters among organizations of the United Nations system, Member States, regional organizations and non-governmental organizations and to enhance interaction and cooperation on such matters. The Department will assist Member States in promoting regional approaches to disarmament and security, including through the regional centres for peace and disarmament.

2.4 The Department will continue to facilitate the process of multilateral deliberation and negotiation by providing substantive organizational support to the First Committee and other subsidiary bodies of the General Assembly, the Disarmament Commission, the Conference on Disarmament and its subsidiary bodies, any ad hoc disarmament bodies as may be established by the Conference on Disarmament, review conferences and other meetings of parties to multilateral agreements on disarmament and related matters, and to expert groups assisting the Secretary-General in undertaking disarmament studies.

2.5 The Department will monitor and assess current and future trends in the field of disarmament and international security to assist Member States in the search for agreement and will promote a broader understanding of the importance of multilateral efforts in the field of arms limitation and disarmament. Training and advisory services will continue to be provided through the United Nations Disarmament Fellowship, Training and Advisory Services Programme and the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, to Member States, in particular developing countries, to enhance their expertise with a view to participating more effectively in international deliberating and negotiating forums. The Department will also assist Member States in increasing understanding among them of the relationship between disarmament and development.

2.6 Pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/2, gender concerns will be addressed in activities to be undertaken by the Department. In particular, Member States will be encouraged to take into account gender equality when nominating candidates as members of expert groups to undertake disarmament studies and as participants in the disarmament fellowship programme, as well as in meetings and events organized by the Department. The Department will also give special emphasis to ensuring that the composition of the Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters and the acquisition of consultancy services reflect gender equality in recognition of the fact that the work of the Department may have a different impact on different target groups.

Subprogramme 1
Multilateral negotiations on arms limitation and disarmament

Objective

2.7 The main objective of this subprogramme is to promote arms limitation and disarmament, to make every effort to ensure that when multilateral agreements in the field of disarmament are negotiated, they will be universally acceptable and to increase expertise in the field of arms limitation and disarmament in more Member States, in particular developing countries.

Strategy

2.8 The subprogramme will be implemented by the Conference on Disarmament Secretariat and Conference Support Branch in Geneva. It will provide substantive organizational and technical support on issues under negotiation: (a) to the Conference on Disarmament, which is the single multilateral disarmament-negotiating forum of the international community; and (b) to review conferences of the States parties to various multilateral arms limitation and disarmament agreements. It will assist Member States in the search for agreement on issues under negotiation. It will also provide substantive organizational support to the Secretary-General of the Conference and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General, the successive rotating Presidents of the Conference and the Presidents of review conferences.

2.9 Member States, in particular developing countries, will be assisted in enhancing their expertise in the field of international security and disarmament through the United Nations Disarmament Fellowship, Training and Advisory Services Programme. Furthermore, the Branch will provide Member States and international and non-governmental organizations with timely information and advice on arms limitation and disarmament issues.

Expected accomplishments

2.10 The expected accomplishments would include:

(a) A more effective process of negotiation and deliberation;

(b) Strengthening of the implementation of existing multilateral arms limitation and disarmament treaties;

(c) Enhanced political and diplomatic skills of participants in the Fellowship Programme in conducting deliberations and negotiations in the field of disarmament.

Indicators of achievement

2.11 Indicators of achievement would include:

(a) The degree of satisfaction expressed by Member States for the services provided by the Secretariat to the Conference on Disarmament and to review conferences and other relevant meetings of States parties to multilateral agreements on disarmament;

(b) The effective and full implementation of the existing multilateral arms limitation and disarmament treaties by States parties;

(c) An increase in the number of applicants for the United Nations Disarmament Fellowship, Training and Advisory Services Programme and wider representation of Member States in the Programme and greater support for the Disarmament Fellowship Programme by Member States.

Subprogramme 2
Weapons of mass destruction

Objective

2.12 The main objective of this subprogramme is to promote the efforts for nuclear disarmament and to assist Member States, as requested, in supporting existing treaties related to weapons of mass destruction.

Strategy

2.13 Within the Department, the Weapons of Mass Destruction Branch is responsible for implementing this subprogramme. It will carry out activities related to weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, as mandated by Member States.

2.14 In order to strengthen and consolidate existing treaties in the area of weapons of mass destruction, as mandated, the Branch will:

(a) Assist States parties and interested States in their efforts to achieve their full implementation of multilateral agreements related to weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons;

(b) Promote confidence in the effectiveness of the treaty regimes;

(c) Enhance its cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency and international treaty organizations such as the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and the Provisional Technical Secretariat of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization.

2.15 The Branch will assist and support negotiations, deliberations and consensus-building. It will also monitor and assess current and future trends in the area of weapons of mass destruction and will expand interaction with non-governmental organizations and research institutes.

Expected accomplishments

2.16 The expected accomplishments would include:

(a) Facilitation of deliberations and negotiations on disarmament issues related to weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, by Member States in a smooth and efficient manner;

(b) Greater awareness and understanding of States of new trends and developments on specific issues related to weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons.

Indicators of achievement

2.17 Indicators of achievement would include:

(a) Satisfaction expressed by States parties for the assistance provided in fuller implementation of agreements in the field of weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons;

(b) Increased utilization by Member States and others in their deliberations of the information provided by the Branch;

(c) Increased and more efficient support to efforts aimed at eliminating weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons.

Subprogramme 3
Conventional arms (including practical disarmament measures)

Objective

2.18 The objective of the subprogramme is to promote greater mutual confidence between Member States in the field of conventional arms and to address the destabilizing and excessive accumulation of and illicit trafficking in and manufacture of small arms and light weapons.

Strategy

2.19 The subprogramme is implemented by the Conventional Arms (including Practical Disarmament Measures) Branch. In response to the concerns expressed by Member States and in accordance with the mandates given by those States, the Branch will carry out the following activities:

(a) Provide advice and assistance on issues related to conventional weapons, as well as on practical disarmament measures to States affected by the excessive and destabilizing accumulation of and illicit trafficking in and manufacture of small arms and light weapons, at their request;

(b) Promote cooperation and coordination, within the United Nations system, of strategies on small arms and light weapons, through the mechanism for Coordinating Action on Small Arms;

(c) Promote cooperation, collaboration and confidence-building measures among interested Member States in the field of conventional arms.

2.20 The Branch will promote, through expert group meetings and regional workshops, greater mutual confidence between Member States in the field of conventional arms and the further development of and wider participation in the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms and the standardized instrument for reporting military expenditures.

Expected accomplishments

2.21 It is expected that the subprogramme would lead to the following:

(a) Further development of and wider participation in the United Nations Register of

Conventional Arms and the standardized instrument for reporting military expenditures;

(b) Enhanced stability and security resulting from the reduction of the threat posed by the excessive and destabilizing accumulation and illicit trafficking in and manufacture of small arms and light weapons.

Indicators of achievement

2.22 Indicators of achievement would include:

(a) Further development of the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms and the standardized instrument for reporting military expenditures and an increase in the number of Member States participating in them;

(b) An increase in the number of effective regional initiatives combating illicit trafficking of small arms;

(c) An increased number of requests by Member States for assistance in developing and implementing weapons collection and destruction programmes.

Subprogramme 4
Monitoring, database and information

Objective

2.23 The main objective of this subprogramme is to provide Member States and the public with objective, impartial and up-to-date information on disarmament activities.

Strategy

2.24 This subprogramme is implemented by the Monitoring, Database and Information Branch. The objective of this subprogramme will be pursued through:

(a) Strengthening the disarmament information system, including the electronic component;

(b) Publishing up-to-date information on United Nations disarmament activities, including on the Internet;

(c) Developing modalities for increased collaboration with the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, organizations of the United Nations system and the research community and for the exchange of ideas between Governments and non-governmental sectors, with a view to promoting a better understanding of United Nations endeavours in the field of disarmament;

(d) Enhancing the work of the Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters;

(e) Dissemination of data provided officially by Governments on transparency measures;

(f) Providing full access of Member States to all pertinent databases related to disarmament.

Expected accomplishments

2.25 The expected accomplishments would include:

(a) Better preparedness of States to undertake multilateral deliberations and negotiations in the field of disarmament;

(b) Increased public support for multilateral action in the field of disarmament;

(c) Greater transparency among the parties to relevant legal instruments.

Indicators of achievement

2.26 The indicators of achievement would include:

(a) A better flow of factual and objective information regarding various aspects of disarmament and easier access by end-users to such information (status of treaties, treaty obligations, progress in negotiations, etc.);

(b) Increased demand for information and assistance;

(c) Provision of up-to-date information on United Nations disarmament activities.

Subprogramme 5
Regional disarmament

Objective

2.27 The objective of this subprogramme is to promote and enhance international efforts towards global disarmament and international peace and security through the support and promotion of regional disarmament efforts and initiatives using approaches freely arrived at among the States of the region and taking into account the legitimate requirements of

States for self-defence and the specific characteristics of each region.

Strategy

2.28 The subprogramme is implemented by the Regional Disarmament Branch and the Regional Centres for Peace and Disarmament in Africa and in Asia and the Pacific and the Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean. It has been generally recognized that regional disarmament could play a vital role in promoting and enhancing international efforts towards global disarmament.

2.29 The objective of this subprogramme will be pursued through:

(a) Advisory services and assistance (including training) to Member States, at their request, and to regional and subregional organizations;

(b) Timely dissemination of information to regional and subregional organizations on decisions taken by the United Nations towards improving the climate of international peace and security in order to encourage and assist them in promoting the adoption and implementation by their Member States of confidence-building measures in their respective regions;

(c) Support of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa;

(d) Organization of conferences, seminars and workshops;

(e) Monitoring and analysis;

(f) Development and maintenance of a database and web site on initiatives and activities of regional and subregional organizations in the areas of disarmament and security.

Expected accomplishments

2.30 The expected accomplishments would include:

(a) Enhanced regional dialogue among States, regional and subregional organizations on peace, security and disarmament issues;

(b) Wider appreciation of the importance of regional disarmament for global peace and security.

Indicators of achievement

2.31 Indicators of achievement would include:

(a) An increase in the number of confidence-building measures adopted and/or implemented;

(b) Increased international support for regional activities related to the promotion of regional peace and security.

Legislative mandates

Programme 2
Disarmament

The mandate for the programme derives from the priorities established in the relevant General Assembly resolutions and decisions in the field of disarmament, including the Final Document of the tenth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament (resolution S-10/2).

Programme 3
Peacekeeping operations

Overall orientation

3.1 The overall purpose of the programme is the maintenance of peace and security through the deployment of peacekeeping operations in accordance with the principles and provisions of the Charter of the United Nations. The legislative authority for the programme derives from the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations. The mandates of the programme are provided in resolutions of the Security Council and General Assembly resolutions on the comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects on the administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of United Nations peacekeeping operations and on assistance in mine clearance. In respect of peacekeeping operations, legislative authority derives from decisions and resolutions of the Security Council related to particular operations.

3.2 The overall strategy in meeting the programme's objective is based on the close coordination of three interdependent and complementary subprogrammes. While every effort will be made to seek the early resolution of conflicts through pacific settlement, resort to regional agencies or arrangements where appropriate and where permitted given their mandate and scope, or other peaceful means in accordance with the Charter, the strategy is based on the development of a capacity to address a wide variety of conflict situations and to plan, establish, manage and direct existing and future peacekeeping operations. This will be accomplished by responding quickly and effectively to Security Council mandates in implementing peace agreements agreed to by the parties to a conflict. Such mandates may provide for the monitoring of ceasefires and buffer zones to prevent conflict situations from escalating while ways to resolve the conflict peacefully are being pursued or to deter conflicts from spilling over borders or escalating further. The Security Council, in some particular peacekeeping missions, has authorized the inclusion of such activities as delivering humanitarian assistance, disarming and demobilizing ex-combatants, reforming military establishments, establishing and monitoring police forces, promoting electoral and judicial reform and all aspects of civil administration, and coordinating economic rehabilitation. If required by legislative bodies, the programme will maintain law and order and assume responsibility for a transitional administration or executive law enforcement, including criminal justice functions, as appropriate. The programme will support the implementation of such mandates by ensuring unity of command of United Nations peacekeeping operations, ensuring effective logistical and administrative support to all field operations and coordinating demining activities. In accordance with Chapter VIII of the Charter, it will strengthen cooperation with regional arrangements, within their respective mandates, scope and composition, in order to enhance the capabilities of the international community in maintaining international peace and security. The need to differentiate between peacekeeping operations and humanitarian assistance is emphasized. However, if protection of humanitarian assistance is a mandated task of a United Nations peacekeeping operation, the humanitarian and peacekeeping efforts should be coordinated to ensure that they are not working at cross purposes and that the impartiality of humanitarian assistance is ensured.

3.3 The Department will ensure a continuous flow of information to and from Member States in all phases of peacekeeping operations, disseminate information to troop contributors in an effective and timely manner to enable them to make informed decisions on their participation in peacekeeping operations, continue to develop and implement innovative strategies for the participation of female personnel, on a broad geographical basis, in all aspects of peacekeeping operations, and maintain cooperation with other related activities of the United Nations system. Particular attention will be given to enhancing the safety and security of peacekeepers in the field.

3.4 To enable the Organization to better respond to situations of conflict that may require the deployment of a peacekeeping operation, in-depth research and analysis of emerging policy questions in the field of peacekeeping operations and the coordination and formulation of related policies, doctrines and procedures will be enhanced through the analysis and assessment of ongoing and closed missions with a view to drawing lessons for ongoing and future operations. Given the multidimensional nature of peacekeeping operations and the relevant civilian component, more emphasis will be given, where appropriate, to the integrated approach of peacekeeping operations and to a stronger coordination among different entities of the Secretariat during the plan period. Emphasis will be given to early planning and effective coordination of activities designed to discourage the resumption of conflict and contribute to creating conditions most conducive to reconciliation. To facilitate and promote greater cooperation and collaboration, the programme will serve as a focal point on issues related to peacekeeping operations and will coordinate with the Department of Political Affairs, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, the United Nations Development Programme, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and other organizations within the United Nations system, as well as with other regional organizations, as appropriate. Substantive and technical support will be provided to the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations, including follow-up on decisions taken by the Security Council and the General Assembly related to peacekeeping operations. The Department of Peacekeeping Operations will implement the recommendations of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations as endorsed by the General Assembly.

Subprogramme 1
Operations

Objective

3.5 The objective of the subprogramme is to ensure the effective and rapid implementation of Security Council mandates by increasing the capacity of the Organization for the planning, establishment and management of peacekeeping operations.

Strategy

3.6 Within the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, the substantive responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in the Office of Operations, which is supported by three regional divisions and the Situation Centre. A comprehensive approach to the establishment of peacekeeping operations and to the provision of guidance and advice to existing peacekeeping operations will be taken, with emphasis placed on addressing the increased workload during the start-up phase of peacekeeping operations. To this end, dialogue with the parties to conflict will be enhanced, as will dialogue with other interested parties, members of the Security Council, troop contributors and relevant regional organizations, as appropriate and in accordance with their respective mandates. Information will be collected and analysed on the basis of reports received from the field, reconnaissance missions, field visits and consultation with other relevant departments and with United Nations agencies and programmes. Additional activities will include the enhancement of round-the-clock communication links with field missions and enhancement of a crisis management capacity capable of operating on short notice.

Expected accomplishments

3.7 Expected accomplishments would include the reduction and or cessation of hostilities in areas of conflict through the fulfilment of Security Council mandates where peacekeeping operations are deployed.

Indicators of achievement

3.8 Indicators of achievement would include an enumeration of instances of compliance by the parties to conflict with Security Council mandates or ceasefire and peace agreements that the parties to conflict reach among themselves.

Subprogramme 2
Field administration, logistics support and mine action coordination

Objective

3.9 The objective of the subprogramme is to ensure timely and effective administrative and logistical support to peacekeeping operations, as well as other activities in the field authorized by the United Nations, and an effective, proactive and coordinated response to threats from landmines and unexploded ordnance.

Strategy

3.10 Within the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, the substantive responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in the Field Administration and Logistics Division and the Mine Action Service. The activities of the subprogramme include ongoing operational support to peacekeeping activities in the areas of administration, personnel, finance, logistics and communications. To this end, the subprogramme will work towards ensuring operational readiness and the effective management of field missions, priority attention being given to enhancing resource planning; improving project management techniques and processes to launch, conduct and liquidate missions; the timely development of administrative structures; and enhancing the calibre of mission staff and their timely deployment to areas of operation. It will promote preparedness through training of civilian personnel and through the systematic management of human resources and assets. Concerted efforts will be made to improve gender balance in the staffing of field missions.

3.11 The subprogramme will ensure an effective, proactive and coordinated United Nations response to mine infestation throughout the Organization's humanitarian, social and economic assistance activities. It will serve as the focal point within the United Nations system for mine-related activities, namely, facilitation of a coherent and constructive dialogue between the United Nations and relevant actors on mine clearance, awareness and assistance; the collection, analysis and dissemination, through transparent and recognized sources, of mine-related information, including information on safety standards; advocacy to promote awareness of the serious threat that the indiscriminate use of landmines constitute to the safety, health and lives of local populations; and the development and implementation of a comprehensive resource mobilization strategy. It will, in coordination with other organizations in the United Nations system, develop policies on the establishment of mine-clearance capacities in countries requesting a reduction in landmine contamination where mines constitute a serious threat to the safety, health and lives of the population. Assessment missions and surveys will be undertaken to establish priorities and oversight. Where appropriate, the subprogramme will develop mine action programmes in support of peacekeeping missions and, as required, initiate mine action plans in humanitarian emergencies.

Expected accomplishments

3.12 Expected accomplishments would include improved operational readiness and effective management of field missions and the reduction of landmine and unexploded ordnance contamination.

Indicators of achievement

3.13 Indicators of achievement would include a reduction in the time lag between the adoption of resolutions and the deployment of civilian personnel and equipment to field missions; a reduction in the duration of the liquidation process; timeliness in the processing of claims; and increased mine action capacity in countries where mines constitute a serious threat.

Subprogramme 3
Military and civilian police advice and planning

Objective

3.14 The objective of the subprogramme is to ensure the effective and expeditious planning and deployment of military and civilian police components of peacekeeping operations.

Strategy

3.15 Within the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, the substantive responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in the Military and Civilian Police Division. In conflict situations, operational plans need to be in place for the military and/or civilian components required for the resolution of the conflict, including trained and readily deployable personnel. To this end, concepts, procedures and methods to be applied to concrete conflict situations must be readily available in order for the Organization to respond quickly and effectively to the situation. The activities of the subprogramme will include preparing operational plans for military and civilian components of field missions, including contingency plans for potential and ongoing or closing operations, assisting in the selection of military and civilian police personnel for mission service and, as required, screening training standards. It will track daily operations of military and civilian police and assist in the peacekeeping training activities of Member States in order to ensure a coordinated approach to peacekeeping training programmes. Liaison will be maintained with regional and national training centres to keep abreast of existing training practices, standards, policies and materials. To ensure a coordinated approach to training programmes, train-the-trainer workshops will be conducted, and training assistance will be provided in connection with seminars in mission management for potential senior officials. To support the peacekeeping training efforts of Member States, standard policies, procedures and guidelines to prepare individuals and units for field operations will be prepared and disseminated to Member States. Gender-sensitive perspectives will be incorporated into all training activities.

3.16 To enhance the Organization's capacity to respond to conflicts in an efficient and prompt manner, the United Nations standby arrangements will be strengthened, as appropriate, to ensure the ready availability of data concerning the immediate capacity of Member States to deploy to new operations.

Expected accomplishments

3.17 Expected accomplishments would include rapid response in the deployment of trained military and civilian police to peacekeeping operations and operational readiness in responding to various conflict situations.

Indicators of achievement

3.18 Indicators of achievement would include a reduction in the amount of time involved in the recruitment and deployment of military and civilian police.

Legislative mandates

Programme 3
Peacekeeping operations

Charter of the United Nations, in particular Article 99

General Assembly resolutions

49/233 A and 52/230	Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations
53/12	Support account for peacekeeping operations
54/81	Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects

Subprogramme 2
Field administration, logistics support and mine action coordination

General Assembly resolutions

49/215	Assistance in mine clearance
54/191	Assistance in mine action

Programme 4
Peaceful uses of outer space

Overall orientation

4.1 The overall purpose of the programme is the promotion of peaceful uses of space science and technology for economic, social and scientific development. The need for international cooperation in space activities and the importance of using outer space exclusively for peaceful purposes were first recognized by the General Assembly in its resolution 1348 (XIII) of 13 December 1958. By its resolution 1472 (XIV) of 12 December 1959, the Assembly established the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space. The direction of the programme is provided in resolutions of the Assembly and decisions of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, its Legal Subcommittee and Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and their subsidiary bodies. Recommendations of particular relevance for the work to be undertaken under this programme are contained in the resolution entitled "The Space Millennium: Vienna Declaration on Space and Human Development", adopted by the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III), held in Vienna from 19 to 30 July 1999 and endorsed by the Assembly in its resolution 54/68 of 6 December 1999.

4.2 In that Declaration, the importance of space science and space applications for the fundamental knowledge of the universe, education, health, environmental monitoring, management of natural resources, disaster management, meteorological forecasting and climate modelling, satellite navigation and communications was recognized, along with the major contribution that space science and technology make to the well-being of humanity and specifically to economic, social and cultural development.

Objective

4.3 The objective of the programme is to deepen the understanding of the international community of ongoing space activities and the role that space technology can play in economic and social development, as well as to facilitate the use of space science and technology in solving problems of regional or global significance, with an emphasis on its application for sustainable development within and outside the United Nations system, taking into account the strategy to address global challenges in the future, as articulated in the Vienna Declaration on Space and Human Development as well as the measures agreed to by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to implement the recommendations of the Conference.

Strategy

4.4 Within the Secretariat, substantive responsibility for the programme is vested in the Office for Outer Space Affairs. The overall strategy in meeting the objective of the programme is based on the need for international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space and would be implemented by the Office through the provision of assistance to and collaboration with Member States, in particular developing countries, organizations within the United Nations system, national and international space-related organizations and the private sector in the areas of space science and technology.

4.5 The Office for Outer Space Affairs will provide parliamentary services, including the preparation of analytical studies on emerging scientific and technical as well as legal and policy issues in support of intergovernmental negotiations, to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, including its Legal Subcommittee and Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and their subsidiary bodies, which serve as a focal point for international cooperation in the peaceful exploration and use of outer space. The Office will assist developing countries, when requested, in the development of national space legislation and ratification of existing outer space treaties. The Office will also serve as the focal point for coordination of space-related activities among the organizations of the United Nations system and other international organizations.

4.6 The United Nations Programme on Space Applications will be implemented through capacity-building and outreach activities, technical assistance and dissemination of information related to peaceful uses of outer space. It will be expanded to include activities to reach young professionals, university students and the private sector, where appropriate. Technical assistance will be provided to Member States, in particular developing countries, through advisory services in integrating space applications into development programmes. Capacity-building and outreach activities will be organized jointly with regional centres for space science and technology education affiliated with the United Nations. Cooperation between developed and developing countries, as well as among developing countries, in space science and technology will be enhanced and the capacities of developing countries in the applications of space technology will be strengthened through a better understanding of space technology and its utilization for social and economic development and development of human resources in space applications. The Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space will seek enhanced involvement of appropriate non-governmental organizations in its work. Within the framework of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications, a fellowship programme will provide individuals from developing countries with the opportunity to participate in workshops, expert meetings and training courses on various topics of space science and technology and its applications.

4.7 In accordance with the Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space, the Office will maintain a public register of objects launched into outer space and disseminate information furnished by Member States. The Office will also maintain and improve the International Space Information Service, which provides information on the work of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies, activities of the Programme on Space Applications, access to satellite data and the international legal framework governing space activities, consisting of agreements, treaties, declarations and legal principles.

Expected accomplishments

4.8 Expected accomplishments would include the formulation and adoption of legal instruments and standards with respect to space-related activities; increased awareness in the international community, in particular among youth, of the effective application of space technology in economic, social and cultural development; and greater access by developing countries to space technology.

Indicators of achievement

4.9 Indicators of achievement would include:

(a) An increase in the number of States establishing national legislation and regulations concerning their space-related activities in conformity with the international legal framework governing outer space activities established by the United Nations;

(b) An increase in the number of new programmes and projects that include the use of space science and technology for economic and social development, in particular in developing countries;

(c) An increase in the number of space-related activities carried out through bilateral and multilateral cooperation;

(d) An improvement in the indigenous capabilities among Member States for utilizing space technology for economic and social development;

(e) An increase in and further enhancement of training opportunities for developing countries, including fellowships provided to individuals from developing countries to participate in workshops, expert meetings and training courses on various topics of space science and technology and its application.

Legislative mandates

Programme 4
Peaceful uses of outer space

General Assembly resolutions

1472 (XIV)	International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space
1721 (XVI)	
2453 (XXIII)	
3235 (XXIX)	Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space
37/90	Second United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space
54/67	International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space
54/68	Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

Programme 5
Legal affairs

Overall orientation

5.1 The general objective of the programme is to promote a better understanding of and respect for the principles and norms of international law by Member States in order to support the accomplishment of the objectives of the United Nations.

5.2 The mandate for the programme derives from the principal decision-making organs of the United Nations in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the Statute of the International Court of Justice.

5.3 Within the Secretariat, substantive responsibility for the programme is vested in the Office of Legal Affairs. It provides a unified central legal service for the Secretariat and the principal and other organs of the United Nations, contributes to the progressive development and codification of international public and trade law, promotes the strengthening and development as well as the effective implementation of the international legal order for the seas and oceans, registers and publishes treaties and performs the depositary functions of the Secretary-General.

5.4 During the plan period, the Office will provide legal advice and services to the decision-making organs of the United Nations and its Member States. It will aim to strengthen respect within the United Nations for the rule of law in international relations, in particular, observance of the Charter and the resolutions, decisions, rules, regulations and treaties emanating from the Organization. Achievement of gender equality will also be addressed in the advice provided by the Office and in the activities of the Office, as appropriate, including encouraging Member States to propose women candidates for positions in governing bodies and within the Organization.

Subprogramme 1
Overall direction, management and coordination of legal advice and services provided to the United Nations as a whole

Objective

5.5 The objective of this subprogramme is to assist the principal organs of the United Nations by providing legal advice.

Strategy

5.6 This subprogramme is implemented by the Office of the Legal Counsel. The Office will assist the principal and subsidiary organs of the United Nations through the provision of legal advice, the preparation of reports and analyses and its participation in meetings. This covers questions relating to international peace and security and includes advice on the interpretation of the Charter, resolutions and regulations of the United Nations, treaties and questions of public international law and questions involving the use of force, sanctions, investigations, commissions of inquiry, expert groups, privileges and immunities and third-party liability.

5.7 In order to assist the Secretary-General in carrying out his statutory responsibilities on constitutional and procedural questions, the Office will provide legal advice in the form of opinions, memoranda or oral statements. This will cover all aspects of international law and the principles and norms contained in the Charter, including privileges and immunities and the status of the Organization in Member States, as well as pertinent decisions of relevant intergovernmental organs of the Organization. The Office will prepare and interpret draft rules of procedure, host country conference agreements and other agreements. Questions relating to representation of States at the United Nations and their credentials will be assessed as required.

5.8 Legal advice will be provided on specific questions related to public international law, such as the succession of States, legal disputes, human rights, humanitarian law, war crimes and crimes against humanity, including formulation of statements of a legal nature for the Secretary-General.

5.9 The Office will also carry out secretariat and representational functions for organs and bodies falling within its competence, including the Credentials Committee of the General Assembly, the Committee on Relations with the Host Country and, as appropriate, ad hoc working groups of the Security Council and the Sixth Committee. The Office will also represent the Secretary-General at meetings and conferences sponsored by the United Nations, as required.

5.10 A further objective of this subprogramme is to ensure that, as subsidiary organs of the United Nations, the ad hoc international tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and for Rwanda operate in accordance with the Charter, rules, regulations and policies of the United Nations, including the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation, and that, as judicial organs, they act independently of States and the Security Council. Within the framework of this subprogramme, the Office of Legal Affairs will advise the Security Council on legal aspects of the activities of the tribunals and will advise the tribunals on their relationship with third States, relevant peacekeeping operations and host countries.

Expected accomplishments

5.11 Expected accomplishments would include the provision of more qualitative legal advice to principal and subsidiary organs of the United Nations.

Indicators of achievement

5.12 Indicators of achievement would include the quality and timeliness of legal advice rendered and of legal instruments finalized; a reduction in the number of violations of international legal instruments for the conduct of the United Nations operations; and the quality and impact of studies, analyses and statements on international law.

Subprogramme 2
General legal services provided to United Nations organs and programmes

Objective

5.13 The objective of this subprogramme is to protect the legal interests of the Organization. This would include assisting the Organization (Headquarters offices, regional commissions, other United Nations offices away from Headquarters, peacekeeping and other missions and other United Nations organizations) in the day-to-day administration of their mandates and programmes through the provision of legal services.

Strategy

5.14 Substantive responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in the General Legal Division. Legal services and support will be provided to assist all parts of the Organization, including offices located away from Headquarters, in the day-to-day administration of their mandates and programmes. These involve: (a) participation in meetings of Secretariat bodies, such as the Committee on Contracts, the Staff Management Coordination Committee, the Property Survey Board and the Claims Board; and (b) interpretation of certain Articles of the Charter, General Assembly resolutions and decisions, the regulations, rules and other administrative issuances of the Organization and the mandates of programmes and activities in which United Nations organs and bodies are engaged.

5.15 Legal services and support will also be provided: (a) for the peacekeeping operations of the Organization in contracting for air, land and sea transportation, rations, logistical support, personnel and equipment; the resolution of related disputes; and claims against the Organization resulting from such operations; (b) for the Organization's expanded contracting requirements and the reform of procurement; (c) to the separately funded programmes, funds and offices for the establishment of programmes of cooperation for development, as well as for the development of new institutional modalities for operational activities and initiatives to counter epidemics and other hazards; (d) for assisting in the prosecution and punishment of staff members and others who engage in theft, corruption or other fraudulent activities against the Organization and for recovery of assets; and (e) for the development of new modalities for cooperating with outside entities in achieving the objectives of the Organization.

5.16 Furthermore, legal services will be provided for matters related to the regulations, rules and other administrative issuances of the Organization and revisions to the personnel appraisal system. The General Legal Division will represent the Secretary-General before the Administrative Tribunal and represent the Organization before other judicial and arbitral bodies.

Expected accomplishments

5.17 Expected accomplishments would include greater protection of the Organization's legal rights; fewer disputes and other legal difficulties; and better compliance with regulations, rules and administrative issuances consistent with the Organization's policies and purposes.

Indicators of achievement

5.18 Indicators of achievement would include the minimization of the liability of the Organization; a reduction in the number of cases of non-compliance with policies, regulations and rules; a reduction in the number of legal disputes and other difficulties; and the timeliness of legal advice provided in support of the operational needs of the Organization.

Subprogramme 3
Progressive development and codification of international law

Objective

5.19 The objective of this subprogramme is to facilitate the progressive development and codification of international law and to promote universal acceptance and implementation of instruments emanating from codification efforts undertaken by the United Nations.

Strategy

5.20 Substantive responsibility for the implementation of this subprogramme is vested in the Codification Division. The types of activities to be undertaken will include research on topics of international law, compilation of background documents, preparation of draft reports of a substantive nature for the bodies concerned, legal advice and assistance in the conduct of proceedings and in the drafting of resolutions, decisions and amendments and implementation of General Assembly resolutions on terrorism, including Assembly resolution 54/110.

5.21 Substantive support will be provided to the Sixth Committee of the General Assembly in its consideration of the status of relevant instruments, measures aimed at enhancing the accession of States to those instruments or, as the case may be, use by States of the procedures envisaged by the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly. Substantive support will also be provided to special committees and open-ended groups established by the Sixth Committee as well as to the International Law Commission.

5.22 The United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law will be implemented through: (a) the preparation and issuance of legal publications, such as the *United Nations Juridical Yearbook*, the *Yearbook of the International Law Commission*, the *United Nations Legislative Series* and the *Reports of International Arbitral Awards*, proceedings of codification conferences, *Summaries of Judgments, Advisory Opinions and Orders of the International Court of Justice*, relevant volumes of *Supplements to the Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs* (including the coordination and review of draft studies prepared by other departments), as well as ad hoc publications on public international law; (b) designing curricula and organizing courses and seminars on various subjects of international law; (c) maintaining and expanding the United Nations audio-visual library in international law, which is open to all States and their educational institutions and government agencies; and (d) continuous updating of the web sites of the International Law Commission, the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and of the codification, development and promotion of international law. Increased efforts will be undertaken to make legal instruments available on the web sites in all six official languages of the United Nations as soon as possible and in conformity with existing mandates governing this issue. Assistance in the form of fellowships, seminars and access to the United Nations legal publications will be provided, in particular, to developing countries.

Expected accomplishments

5.23 Expected accomplishments would include increased awareness of and respect for the rules and principles of international law; progress in the formulation and adoption of legal instruments to deal with issues of major international concern; and increased knowledge and understanding of public international law.

Indicators of achievement

5.24 Indicators of achievement would include satisfaction expressed by Member States with the quality, volume and timeliness of documentation prepared by the Codification Division; an increase in the number of new legal instruments emanating from the process of codification dealing with issues of major international concern; the quality of publications and seminars; an increase in the number of visitors to the Division's web site; an increase in adherence by States to existing instruments; and increased timeliness and availability of international law codification documents and legal instruments in all six official languages of the United Nations.

Subprogramme 4
Law of the sea and ocean affairs

Objective

5.25 The objective of this subprogramme is to promote the universal acceptance of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and the implementing Agreements and their uniform and consistent application, and to facilitate the efforts of Member States to derive practical benefits from the international legal regime for the oceans.

Strategy

5.26 This subprogramme is implemented by the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea. The mandate for this subprogramme lies in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and the implementing Agreements, in decisions taken by Meetings of States parties to the Convention and by the General Assembly, in particular its resolution 49/28 of 6 December 1994 adopted upon the entry into force of the Convention, resolution 52/26 of 26 November 1997, and resolution 54/33 of 24 November 1999.

5.27 The Division will provide information, analysis and advice on the Convention and the Agreements, their status and State practice relating thereto. Assistance will be provided to States and international organizations in the development of legal instruments in the field of the law of the sea and ocean affairs, in harmony with the provisions of the Convention.

5.28 Assistance will be provided for the effective functioning of the treaty system of institutions. This will be accomplished by providing servicing to meetings of States parties and to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf, and by providing assistance to the International Seabed Authority and to the dispute-settlement mechanisms set forth in the Convention, including the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea.

5.29 Member States will be assisted in identifying emerging aspects of marine affairs within the framework of the Convention and the programme of action formulated by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in chapter 17 of Agenda 21, reconfirmed in decision 7/1 of the Commission on Sustainable Development, as endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 54/33. This assistance will entail analysing areas requiring action, organizing groups of experts for the purpose of formulating appropriate responses to emerging needs, and servicing multilateral consultations and negotiations so as to contribute to the progressive development and codification of international law.

5.30 Member States will also be assisted in developing and strengthening their capabilities, including institutional infrastructure, as well as human, technical and financial resources, for exercising their rights to the fullest degree and fulfilling their obligations in the most cost-effective manner.

5.31 The annual consideration, review and evaluation by the General Assembly of continuing developments related to the law of the sea and ocean affairs will be undertaken through the provision of information, analysis and reports and the servicing of the open-ended informal consultative process established by the Assembly to carry out the oversight of ocean and law of the sea matters with an integrated and coordinated approach. The full participation of the Division of Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea in both the informal consultative process on oceans and law of the sea and the Subcommittee on Oceans and Coastal

Areas of the Administrative Committee on Coordination is envisaged.

Expected accomplishments

5.32 Expected accomplishments would include greater respect for and acceptance of the Convention and the Agreements, a higher degree of uniformity and consistency in their application and increased opportunities for States to derive benefits from the seas and oceans in conformity with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

Indicators of achievement

5.33 Indicators of achievement would include an increase in the number of legal instruments developed by States and international organizations in the field of the law of the sea and ocean affairs and the degree of satisfaction on the part of Member States with assistance provided.

Subprogramme 5 Progressive harmonization and unification of the law of international trade

Objective

5.34 The major objective of this subprogramme is to facilitate and encourage the progressive improvement and harmonization of international trade law and to enhance the knowledge, understanding and application of international trade law.

Strategy

5.35 Substantive responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in the International Trade Law Branch.

5.36 The United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL), codification conferences and related intergovernmental working groups will be provided with substantive support. This will include research on international trade law, compilation of background information, preparation of draft substantive reports, legal advice, and assistance in the conduct of proceedings and in the drafting of decisions, amendments and proposals. The work of other international organizations active in international trade law will be monitored to avoid duplication and inconsistencies. Cooperation will be undertaken with regional organizations to foster regional harmonization on the basis of universal texts of the Commission.

5.37 The International Trade Law Branch will draft for Governments modern and universally acceptable legislative texts (treaties, model laws, legislative guides and recommendations) in areas where the Commission determines that the harmonization of commercial law is desirable and feasible. In this context, the Branch will draft, for use by commercial parties, non-legislative texts such as model contract clauses, model contractual rules, legal guides and studies. It will provide models for use by intergovernmental organizations when they prepare legislative texts or assist their member States in modernizing trade legislation. Furthermore, the Branch will draft models for use by international and national governmental organizations when they prepare standard texts for the use of their members. Attention will also be given to issues arising from the increasing importance of electronic commerce in international trade.

5.38 Assistance will be provided to Governments in the preparation of legislation in the form of briefings to officials and training. Professional associations and academic institutions, in particular in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, will be assisted in promoting the modernization and teaching of international trade law.

5.39 Users of texts originating from the work of the Commission will be provided with information on the judicial and arbitral application and interpretation of those texts. Such information is made available, in all official languages of the United Nations, in the form of abstracts of court decisions and arbitral awards.

Expected accomplishments

5.40 Expected accomplishments would include modernization of trade practices; reduction of legal uncertainties and obstacles posed by inadequate and disparate laws; more efficient trade negotiations; simplification of the administration of transactions and lower transaction costs; and reduction of disputes in international trade.

Indicators of achievement

5.41 Indicators of achievement would include a higher number of transactions or a higher volume of international trade carried out under the regime of

UNCITRAL legislative and non-legislative texts; an increase in the number of legislative decisions based on UNCITRAL texts; and an increase in the number of merchants using or relying on harmonized international trade law in conducting trade.

Subprogramme 6
Custody, registration and publication of treaties

Objective

5.42 The objective of this subprogramme, consistent with the Charter, is to facilitate open diplomacy and to promote respect for international treaty obligations.

Strategy

5.43 Substantive responsibility for the implementation of this subprogramme is vested in the Treaty Section.

5.44 The Section will continue to undertake the depositary functions of the Secretary-General (for over 500 multilateral treaties) and the registration and publication functions relating to over 50,000 treaties and related actions (annual intake of 2,700). Timely and accurate information relating to the treaties deposited with the Secretary-General and treaties and related actions registered with the Secretariat will be provided. Assistance and advice to Member States, United Nations bodies and other entities on the technical aspects of treaty-making and on treaty law-related matters will also be provided.

5.45 The Treaty Section will complete and further improve its computerization programme with respect to: (a) development of a comprehensive electronic database containing up-to-date depositary and registration information; (b) electronic dissemination of treaty- and treaty law-related information from the database, including through online access; and (c) enhancement of the electronic database/work-flow system, including desktop publishing capabilities.

Expected accomplishments

5.46 Expected accomplishments would include the enhancement of knowledge and understanding of treaties and related international legal matters and of respect for the international treaty framework.

Indicators of achievement

5.47 Indicators of achievement would include the timely publication of the multilateral treaties deposited with the Secretary-General, the United Nations *Treaty Series*, the monthly *Statement of Treaties and International Agreements* and the *United Nations Treaty Series Cumulative Index*; greater satisfaction of users with the services provided by the Treaty Section, including the electronic services; and, as appropriate, the timely registration of treaties by States, in conformity with Article 102 of the Charter.

Legislative mandates

Subprogramme 1
Overall direction, management and coordination of legal advice and services provided to the United Nations as a whole

General Assembly resolution

13 (I)	Organization of the Secretariat

Subprogramme 2
General legal services provided to United Nations organs and programmes

General Assembly resolutions

351 (IV)	Establishment of a United Nations Administrative Tribunal
782 B (VIII)	Personnel policy of the United Nations: amendment to the Statute of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal
957 (X)	Procedure for review of United Nations Administrative Tribunal judgements: amendments to the Statute of the Administrative Tribunal

Subprogramme 3
Progressive development and codification of international law

General Assembly resolutions

174 (II)	Establishment of an International Law Commission
487 (V)	Ways and means for making the evidence of customary international law more readily available
987 (X)	Publication of the documents of the International Law Commission
3006 (XXVII)	United Nations Juridical Yearbook
50/53	Measures to eliminate international terrorism
51/210	Measures to eliminate international terrorism
52/165	Measures to eliminate international terrorism
53/108	Measures to eliminate international terrorism
54/102	United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law
54/107	Implementation of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions
54/110	Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Subprogramme 4
Law of the sea and ocean affairs

United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

Articles 16 (2), 47 (9), 75 (2), 76 (9), 84 (2), 287 (8), 298 (6), 312, 313 (1), 319 (1) and 319 (2); articles 2 (2), 2 (5) and 6 (3) of annex II; articles 2 and 3 (e) of annex V; article 4 (4) of annex VI; article 2 (1) of annex VII; and article 3 (e) of annex VIII.

General Assembly resolutions

49/28	Law of the Sea
52/26	Oceans and the law of the sea
53/33	Large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing, unauthorized fishing in zones of national jurisdiction and on the high seas, fisheries by-catch and discards, and other developments
54/32	Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks
54/33	Results of the review by the Commission on Sustainable Development of the sectoral theme of "Oceans and seas": international coordination and cooperation

Annual resolutions adopted by the General Assembly on the item entitled "Oceans and the law of the sea"

Subprogramme 5
Progressive harmonization and unification of the law of international trade

General Assembly resolutions

2205 (XXI)	Establishment of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law

Annual resolutions adopted by the General Assembly on the work of UNCITRAL

Subprogramme 6
Custody, registration and publication of treaties

Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations

General Assembly resolutions

23 (I)	Registration of treaties and international agreements
24 (I)	Transfer of certain functions, activities and assets of the League of Nations

97 (I)	Registration and publication of treaties and international agreements: Regulations to give effect to Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations
364 (IV)	Registration and publication of treaties and international agreements
482 (V)	Registration and publication of treaties and international agreements
33/141	Registration and publication of treaties and international agreements pursuant to Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations
51/158	Electronic treaty database
54/28	United Nations Decade of International Law

Programme 6
General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference services

Overall orientation

6.1 The overall objectives of this programme are: (a) to facilitate the deliberations of the General Assembly, its General and Main Committees and its various subsidiary organs, the Trusteeship Council, the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary and ad hoc bodies, and special conferences and meetings held under the auspices of the United Nations dealing with disarmament, international security and economic, social and related matters, through the provision of authoritative advice and secretariat services; and (b) to ensure the provision of high-quality conference services to all intergovernmental and expert bodies meeting at Headquarters and at the United Nations Office at Geneva, the United Nations Office at Vienna and the United Nations Office at Nairobi. The basic mandates for the provision of secretariat and conference services are contained in the rules of procedure of the main organs of the United Nations. Additional mandates for conference services are found in resolutions adopted regularly by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, particularly those on the pattern and calendar of conferences and on the control and limitation of documentation. Overall intergovernmental direction concerning the organization and servicing of meetings is given by the General Assembly on the advice of the Committee on Conferences, in accordance with Assembly resolution 43/222 B of 21 December 1988, which established the terms of reference of the Committee. The Department of General Assembly Affairs and Conference Services is responsible for the implementation of this programme and for the achievement of its objectives.

6.2 The Department will provide authoritative advice and technical support, as well as efficient and effective conference services, including the planning and coordination of meetings, editing, translation, interpretation, meeting records, publishing and the distribution of documentation. Further steps should be taken to establish new unified conference-servicing facilities as a United Nations common service and to strengthen the efficiency of existing unified conference-servicing facilities as a United Nations common service.

6.3 The Department will take the necessary steps to strengthen the efficiency and increase the utilization of the conference-servicing facility at Nairobi.

Subprogramme 1
General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs

Objective

6.4 The major objective of this subprogramme is to ensure the orderly and procedurally correct conduct of the meetings and follow-up work of the General Assembly, its General, First, Special Political and Decolonization (Fourth), Second and Third Committees and the subsidiary and ad hoc bodies under the aegis of the Assembly, such as the Disarmament Commission and the Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean; the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary and ad hoc bodies; the Trusteeship Council; the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples; and the special conferences and meetings held under the auspices of the United Nations in the fields of international security, disarmament, economic, social and related areas, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the rules of procedure and established practices of the organs of the United Nations. Another objective of the subprogramme is to facilitate the deliberations of the subsidiary organs and various open-ended working groups established by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, namely, the Open-ended Working Group on the Question of Equitable Representation on and Increase in the Membership of the Security Council and Other Matters related to the Security Council and the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on the Causes of Conflict and the Promotion and Durable Peace and Sustainable Development in Africa, in their consideration of major issues that will have a significant impact on the work of the Organization.

Strategy

6.5 Within the Department of General Assembly Affairs and Conference Services, the General Assembly and Economic and Social Council Affairs Division is responsible for the implementation of this subprogramme. The Division will assist the Presidents and Bureaux of the Assembly and the Council and their subsidiary bodies, as well as the Trusteeship Council and other intergovernmental bodies, and the representatives of Member States in all matters relating to the work of those bodies, with particular emphasis on the effective scheduling and procedurally correct conduct of meetings as well as consultations on their work, and will provide those bodies with technical secretariat services. The Division will also prepare and use analytical studies on the rules and procedures of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council to prepare for various scenarios so that the conduct of meetings will be consistent with the rules and practices of the bodies and to assist Member States in the development of appropriate proposals for review by the bodies concerned.

6.6 The Division will continue to provide technical secretariat services for the meetings of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and its subsidiary bodies, as well as organizational and technical secretariat servicing support to decolonization-related activities, such as visiting missions, regional seminars and the mandated activities of the Special Committee relating to intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

6.7 The Division will also continue its work on the research and preparation of analytical studies on the application and interpretation of the provisions of the relevant articles of the Charter related to the activities of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council, the Trusteeship Council, their subsidiary and ad hoc bodies and their rules of procedure for inclusion in the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs*. The Division will also coordinate the production of the volume of the *Repertory* devoted to the General Assembly and will endeavour to update the *Repertory* and ensure its regular publication, in accordance with Assembly resolutions 51/209 and 52/161.

6.8 The Division will prepare the necessary parliamentary documentation and coordinate the submission of correct and duly authorized reports and communications for processing as official documents of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and their subsidiary bodies or the Trusteeship Council, as well as their timely issuance in accordance with the practice, programme of work and schedule of those bodies, in order to facilitate the organization and conduct of their meetings. In addition, the Division will be responsible for the analysis of resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council and for conducting consultations and coordinating the assignment of responsibility for the implementation of such resolutions and decisions and the respective follow-up to ensure timely action by relevant bodies.

Expected accomplishments

6.9 Improved conduct of meetings of United Nations organs through timely and qualitative organizational and secretarial support and authoritative advice on meetings procedure would be an expected accomplishment of the subprogramme.

Indicators of achievement

6.10 An indicator of achievement would be the percentage of scheduled meetings conducted in a timely, orderly and procedurally correct manner.

Subprogramme 2
Planning, development and coordination of conference services

Objective

6.11 The main objective of the subprogramme is to improve the global planning and coordination of conference services with rational allocation and capacity utilization of the existing conference resources. Another objective is to ensure that intergovernmental bodies, special conferences and Member States in general have access to meeting and documentation services in accordance with the resolutions and rules establishing language arrangements for the various bodies and organs of the United Nations.

Strategy

6.12 Within the Department of General Assembly Affairs and Conference Services, substantive responsibility for the subprogramme is assigned to the Central Planning and Coordination Service and the respective services of the Department's operational units at Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi, as appropriate. The Service will focus on: (a) analysis of available conference resources for mandated meetings through regular consultations with United Nations bodies at Headquarters and other duty stations with a view to assessing their needs; (b) effective planning of the annual calendar of United Nations conferences and meetings and allocation of conference-servicing resources on the basis of workload statistics, performance indicators and cost information; (c) upgrading of the technological capacity in conference services in line with new developments in technology; and (d) monitoring compliance by author departments and offices of the Secretariat with regulations governing the timely and orderly preparation of parliamentary documentation. The Committee on Conferences will be provided with substantive and technical support for the effective delivery of its mandate.

Expected accomplishments

6.13 An expected accomplishment would be improved quality and efficiency of conference services provided to the United Nations organs and satisfaction of all requirements in this regard. Another expected accomplishment would be the implementation of the practice of unified conference servicing in other United Nations conference facilities where feasible and more cost-effective, without adversely affecting the quality of services provided.

Indicators of achievement

6.14 The degree of satisfaction expressed by Member States regarding the level and quality of the conference services they are provided with would be an indicator of achievement.

Subprogramme 3
Translation and editorial services

Objective

6.15 The objective of this subprogramme is the efficient and timely issuance of documentation and other written materials reflecting high-quality editing and translation.

Strategy

6.16 Within the Department of General Assembly Affairs and Conference Services, the substantive responsibility for this subprogramme rests with the Translation and Editorial Division at Headquarters and with the related editorial and translation services of the Department's operational units at Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi, as appropriate. The Division and the services will utilize an appropriate mix of permanent, temporary and contractual staff and adequate technological resources to ensure that documentation and other materials in official languages of the United Nations are issued in a timely fashion, in strict compliance with the regulations and rules governing language arrangements for the various bodies and organs of the United Nations. Self-revision will be used within reasonable limits while safeguarding standards of quality. Reliance on contractual translation will continue with a broadening of the range of material processed in this manner and a more consistent use of quality control procedures. Efforts will continue to widen the access of editors and translators to electronic reference and terminology databases and to expand the use of computer-assisted translation to facilitate the work and enhance the accuracy and consistency of translated documents. Workload sharing among conference centres will be further expanded, thereby contributing to the timeliness and cost-effectiveness of the documentation production.

Expected accomplishments

6.17 An accomplishment would be enhancement of the quality of edited and translated documents combined with their timely release for text processing, reproduction and distribution.

Indicators of achievement

6.18 The degree of satisfaction expressed by Member States regarding the quality of the editing and translation of the documents they receive and an evaluation of the timeliness of documents produced, while taking into account the pertinent resolutions of the General Assembly, would be indicators of achievement.

Subprogramme 4
Interpretation, meeting and publishing services

Objective

6.19 The objective of this subprogramme is to provide efficient and accurate interpretation and verbatim reporting services and to ensure the timely production and distribution of documents and publications in the official languages of the Organization.

Strategy

6.20 Within the Department of General Assembly Affairs and Conference Services, the substantive responsibility for this subprogramme rests with the Interpretation, Meetings and Publishing Division at Headquarters and with the related interpretation and publishing services of the Department's operational units at Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi, as appropriate. Remote interpretation, contingent on the results of pilot projects, will be further developed as a complement to on-site services, subject to the provisions of relevant General Assembly resolutions, while ensuring that the quality of interpretation is not affected. Off-site verbatim reporting will be expanded. In the publishing area, the application of advanced electronic information management and communications technology will continue, in order to address the demand for both printed and electronic products and to make the production operation speedier and more efficient. The availability of parliamentary documentation and other publications will be enhanced through widespread access to electronic documents stored on optical disk, an expansion of the capacity for printing on demand and the development of computer-assisted storage and retrieval systems in the distribution area, while not affecting the traditional means. External printing will be further reduced through the use of desktop publishing in all official languages and the continued expansion of the technical capabilities of the in-house reproduction plant. The possibility of converting the in-house printing capacity into a United Nations common service will be further explored, in consultation with United Nations funds and programmes at Headquarters and with specialized agencies of the United Nations system at Geneva.

Expected accomplishments

6.21 Expected accomplishments by the end of the plan period would be an enhancement of the high-quality interpretation provided to scheduled meetings and the production and issuance of parliamentary documentation consistently in accordance with current rules.

Indicators of achievement

6.22 Indicators of achievement would be the following:

(a) The degree of satisfaction expressed by Member States with respect to interpretation and meeting services provided to them;

(b) The degree of satisfaction expressed by Member States regarding the timely issuance and distribution of parliamentary documentation in the six official languages simultaneously.

Legislative mandates

Subprogramme 1
General Assembly and Economic and Social Council Affairs

Relevant articles of the Charter of the United Nations

General Assembly resolutions

S-10/2	Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly
52/12	Renewing the United Nations: a programme for reform
53/208	Pattern of conferences
54/248	Pattern of conferences
54/249	Questions relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001

Subprogramme 2
Planning, development and coordination of conference services

General Assembly resolutions

50/11	Multilingualism
53/208	Pattern of conferences

Subprogramme 3
Translation and editorial services

General Assembly resolutions

50/11	Multilingualism
53/208	Pattern of conferences

Subprogramme 4
Interpretation, meeting and publishing services

General Assembly resolutions

49/237	Questions relating to the programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995
50/11	Multilingualism
52/161	Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization
53/208	Pattern of conferences
54/64	Multilingualism
54/248	Pattern of conferences

Programme 7
Economic and social affairs

Overall orientation

7.1 The overall purpose of the programme is to strengthen international economic and social cooperation and to promote development in a comprehensive, inclusive and far-sighted manner. The United Nations is in a unique position to address the interests of all countries, including the requirements and development concerns of countries that are profoundly affected by the powerful tide of forces moving global change but with little capacity individually to influence the processes that are under way. The programme will continue to pay particular attention to the overall objective of promoting sustainable development, in particular to eradicate poverty and to address the special needs of Africa, the least developed countries, the land-locked transit developing countries and the small island developing States, as well as to the promotion of South-South cooperation. The programme will be further guided by the need to empower women through gender mainstreaming, advocacy and the design of policies to achieve relevant targets.

7.2 Relevant legislative authorities include the programmes and platforms of action adopted by the General Assembly, such as the International Development Strategy, the Agenda for Development, the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (1992), the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly for the purpose of an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21 (1997), the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (1994), the twenty-second special session of the General Assembly for the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (1999), the International Conference on Population and Development (1994) and the key actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action adopted at that conference (1999), the World Summit for Social Development (1995), the special session of the General Assembly on the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and further initiatives (2000), the Fourth World Conference on Women (1995), the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: Gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century" (2000) and the World Education Forum (2000).

7.3 The programme has the most extensive capacity within the United Nations system for economic, social and demographic statistics, including the collection and analysis of data on demographic issues, and distinct capacities in the key areas of macroeconomic analysis, sustainable development, social development, public economics and public administration, as well as gender issues and the advancement of women. In addition, through its capacity for normative and operational work, the programme is able to provide effective integrated support for the formulation of policies by the concerned intergovernmental bodies and processes and to advance their follow-up at both the global and national levels. Of special importance in this regard is promoting the development of policies on macroeconomic issues, such as those being pursued in the finance for development process; the renewal of dialogue through partnership in the General Assembly; the high-level consideration of economic and social issues in the Economic and Social Council, including the Council's dialogue with the financial and trade institutions; the continuing policy dialogue in the Assembly and the Council on globalization and interdependence and the related implications for development; and the integrated follow-up to global conferences.

7.4 The programme also has special responsibility for coordination, within the United Nations, through the Executive Committee for Economic and Social Affairs and the United Nations system as a whole. In relation to the latter, the programme is responsible for providing support to the Economic and Social Council and for interactions between the Council and the Administrative Committee on Coordination. It also provides the administrative location for the function of substantive and technical servicing of the Administrative Committee on Coordination, which is supported on an inter-agency basis.

7.5 The programme is under the responsibility of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs. There is no single intergovernmental body providing overall guidance to the programme. Such guidance is provided by intergovernmental and/or expert bodies for each subprogramme.

Subprogramme 1
Economic and Social Council support and coordination

Objective

7.6 The objective of this subprogramme is to advance the role of the United Nations in the economic and social field by: (a) coordinating substantive support provided to relevant aspects of the work of the Second and Third Committees of the General Assembly; and (b) by reinforcing the capacity of the Economic and Social Council in the exercise of its overall guidance and coordination roles and in the promotion of policy dialogue on interrelated economic and social issues, including the coordinated follow-up of the outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits, the special meetings with financial and trade institutions and the preparation and follow-up of triennial policy reviews of operational activities for development. As part of this objective, it will assist in promoting effective implementation within the United Nations system, in particular through the Administrative Committee on Coordination and its subsidiary machinery, of the Council's recommendations, and will facilitate close collaboration between the Council and the Committee.

Strategy

7.7 Responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in the Division for Economic and Social Council Support and Coordination. The Division will seek to achieve the objective through a multi-pronged strategy, which will include:

(a) Providing effective support to the Economic and Social Council, including its coordinating segment;

(b) Expanding interaction between the Council and the Administrative Committee on Coordination;

(c) Ensuring that preparation for the work of the General Assembly in the economic and social field and of the Council benefit from coordinated inputs from all concerned parts of the Organization and the system as a whole;

(d) Strengthening the interactive nature of the debates of the Assembly and the Council, including through panel discussions with participation from the United Nations financial and trade institutions, non-governmental organizations and other relevant stakeholders of civil society;

(e) Assisting in maximizing the policy relevance of the outcomes of the work of the Assembly and the Council and ensuring that arrangements are in place to monitor their effective implementation by, inter alia, linking the outcomes of the high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council to the deliberations in the framework of the General Assembly.

Expected accomplishments

7.8 Expected accomplishments would include:

(a) A strengthened role of the General Assembly in the economic and social field and enhanced effectiveness of the Economic and Social Council in advancing consensus-building and policy coordination on key interrelated international development cooperation issues, including operational activities for development;

(b) More effective policy guidance and coordination by the Economic and Social Council vis-à-vis the work of its functional commissions;

(c) Provision of stronger substantive support to the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations and to non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council;

(d) More effective interactions between the Council and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council;

(e) More effective interactions between the Council and trade and financial institutions.

Indicators of achievement

7.9 Indicators of achievement would include:

(a) An enumeration of the ways in which the subprogramme has promoted consensus-building on key development issues, including upstream policy issues such as adoption of recommendations, communiqués and agreed conclusions;

(b) Usefulness of results of the interactive debates and panel discussions and dissemination of those deliberations, including through the Internet;

(c) The level of satisfaction of participants in the intergovernmental processes with respect to the support provided to those processes.

Subprogramme 2
Gender issues and advancement of women

Objective

7.10 The main objective is to promote the effective implementation of the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women and the outcome of their review by the General Assembly at its special session held in June 2000. The subprogramme works towards ensuring women's full enjoyment of their human rights, and to this end it will ensure support to assist the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women to increase its effectiveness and efficiency. An important objective of the subprogramme is to support the mainstreaming of a gender perspective at all levels. The improvement of the gender balance and of gender equality in the United Nations Secretariat and promotion of a more gender-sensitive work environment are also part of the subprogramme's objectives.

7.11 The Commission on the Status of Women and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women provide guidance to the subprogramme. The special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century", is also expected to provide further guidance in the implementation of the subprogramme.

Strategy

7.12 The Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women and the Division for the Advancement of Women will pursue the above objectives through a strategy that will build on providing effective support to intergovernmental bodies, integrating policy advisory services into the overall programme of work and expanding interaction and communication with civil society. In addition, the strategy will enable the subprogramme to play a more effective role in advancing gender mainstreaming as well as in implementing system-wide the Platform for Action and the outcome of the special session by, inter alia, increasing the effectiveness of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and the Inter-Agency Committee on Women and Gender Equality of the Administrative Committee on Coordination under the leadership of the Special Adviser.

Expected accomplishments

7.13 Expected accomplishments would include:

(a) Noticeable progress in mainstreaming a gender perspective into the work of intergovernmental forums, entities of the United Nations system, other intergovernmental organizations and Member States;

(b) Enhanced capacity to provide effective gender advisory services that assist developing countries and countries with economies in transition, at their request, in implementing the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action and the outcome of their review by the General Assembly at its special session in June 2000, as well as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and subsequent intergovernmental mandates;

(c) Establishment of an expanded framework for information exchange and communication with Governments and civil society;

(d) The achievement, within the United Nations Secretariat, of gender balance in a greater number of departments and offices and improvement of women's representation at all levels and in all occupations in the Professional category and above without prejudice to the provisions of Article 101 of the Charter;

(e) Increased efficiency and effectiveness of the Inter-Agency Committee on Women and Gender Equality;

(f) An increased number of ratifications of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and its optional protocol, increased compliance by States parties with reporting obligations under the Convention and improved coordination between the Division for the Advancement of Women and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in contributing to the development and strengthening of human rights mechanisms to ensure the enjoyment by women of their human rights;

(g) Increased capacity of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, as indicated in article 18 of the Convention.

Indicators of achievement

7.14 Indicators of achievement would include:

(a) An assessment of the progress achieved in mainstreaming a gender perspective through analysis of the outcome of the deliberations of the intergovernmental forums, the inclusion of a gender perspective in the work programmes of the entities of the United Nations system and the responses received from Member States on the measures taken by them;

(b) The number of ratifications of the Convention and its Optional Protocol, the number of States parties submitting their reports to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on time and the number of reports examined by the Committee on Elimination of Discrimination against Women;

(c) The usefulness of the advisory services provided and related areas of work;

(d) The percentage of women in posts at the Professional category and above in the Secretariat and improvement in their distribution by grade;

(e) An increase in the activities and accountability measures for gender mainstreaming included in the system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women;

(f) The development of tools and methodologies and the promotion of good practices with respect to system-wide gender mainstreaming by the Inter-Agency Committee on Women and Gender Equality of the Administrative Committee on Coordination, including enhancement of the capabilities of the regional economic commissions to work as focal points for inter-agency coordination on gender issues within the United Nations system.

Subprogramme 3
Social policy and development

Objective

7.15 The main objective is to strengthen international cooperation for social development, with particular attention to the three core issues of poverty eradication, employment generation and social integration. The subprogramme will also aim to advance work on ageing, disability and the family, and to promote the internationally agreed programmes on youth. The subprogramme is under the intergovernmental guidance of the Commission for Social Development.

Strategy

7.16 The Division for Social Policy and Development is responsible for the subprogramme. Utilizing the Division's capacity for policy analysis, intergovernmental support and advisory services, the strategy will include assisting Governments and other actors by advancing common norms, policies and cooperative action and developing integrated approaches. To this end, implementation of the subprogramme will be achieved through:

(a) Identifying further initiatives on the basis of an assessment and appraisal of the implementation of measures, recommendations and activities related to the Fourth United Nations Development Decade (1991-2000) and the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006);

(b) Promoting the implementation of the commitments and policies contained in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development (1995), and promoting also, in this context, additional measures and initiatives adopted by the General Assembly at its special session for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development, held in June 2000, and by pertinent decisions of the Commission for Social Development;

(c) Improving research, data collection and policy analysis;

(d) At the request of Governments, providing advisory services and carrying out technical cooperation activities, including training;

(e) Providing assistance to Governments and the global community to further the implementation of major intergovernmental policy documents on ageing, disabilities and youth, including the International Plan of Action on Ageing and its revision and updates, the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities and the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond; and facilitating access to information in these areas through, inter alia, the development of an Internet-accessible database on relevant policies and implementation thereof.

Expected accomplishments

7.17 The expected accomplishments would include:

(a) More effective implementation of the commitments and policies contained in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development, the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development and the outcome of the General Assembly at its special session held in June 2000;

(b) The provision of effective assistance to Member States in achieving the goal of eradicating poverty through decisive national action and international cooperation, particularly in the context of the objectives of the Social Summit;

(c) Strengthened capacity of the international community to respond to long-term and emerging issues in socio-economic development;

(d) Increased technical and institutional capacity of developing countries and countries with economies in transition to formulate and implement effective social policies and programmes contributing to economic growth and sustainable development and provision of support to socio-economic aspects of development, including reconstruction and rehabilitation processes in post-conflict situations;

(e) Strengthened capacity of Governments and the global community to further the implementation of the major intergovernmental policy documents on ageing, including the International Plan of Action on Ageing;

(f) Greater implementation of international norms and standards for equalization of opportunities for persons with disabilities;

(g) Enhanced capacity of Governments to formulate, implement and evaluate family-related policies and programmes;

(h) Enhanced youth participation in activities related to development and peace.

Indicators of achievement

7.18 Indicators of achievement would include:

(a) The level of satisfaction expressed with respect to the support provided to the various policy processes;

(b) Progress in achieving quantitative and qualitative targets adopted by the intergovernmental process, in particular the Social Summit and the outcome of its review;

(c) The number of social policies and initiatives formulated and developed and their incorporation into public policies at the national and international levels;

(d) The impact of advisory services provided in the areas of work of the subprogramme.

Subprogramme 4
Sustainable development

Objective

7.19 The objective of the subprogramme is to seek to ensure the effective and coordinated implementation of Agenda 21 and other commitments made during the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, the outcome of the twenty-second special session of the General Assembly to review the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 adopted by the General Assembly at its nineteenth special session, and the decisions of the Commission on Sustainable Development as well as the resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council on the recommendation of bodies responsible for energy and natural resources.

Strategy

7.20 The Division for Sustainable Development is responsible for the subprogramme. The strategy will include:

(a) Promoting effective and coordinated implementation of the sustainable development agenda of the United Nations;

(b) Providing substantive support and bringing new issues within the context of Agenda 21 to the attention of the Commission on Sustainable Development for its consideration, including assessment of critical areas of sustainability;

(c) Following up on the decisions taken regarding the economic, social and environmental aspects of sustainable development, paying due attention to matters related to providing adequate and predictable new and additional financial resources to developing countries, supporting the efforts of countries with economies in transition, changing production and consumption patterns and mechanisms for the transfer of technology to those countries, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed in Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, addressing poverty in the context of sustainable development, and ensuring the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 53/7, in which it endorsed the World Solar Programme, 1996-2005, and 54/215, in which it called for further action to ensure that the World Solar Programme, as a part of the overall new and renewable sources of energy agenda, is fully integrated and brought into the mainstream of the efforts of the United Nations system towards attaining the objective of sustainable development;

(d) Providing advisory services to Governments, at their request, in preparing national sustainable development strategies and related actions;

(e) Devising operational strategies to promote the sustainable use of natural resources and energy, strengthening institutional, human resources and policy-making capacity in the area of natural resources, in particular water resources, and helping to develop and commercialize new and renewable sources of energy, as well as strengthening national institutions for the assessment and management of energy resources and related requests;

(f) Promoting and supporting North-South international cooperation in the area of sustainable development.

Expected accomplishments

7.21 Expected accomplishments would include:

(a) Strengthening of coordinated approaches towards implementing the economic, social and environmental aspects of sustainable development by all actors, including the organizations of the United Nations system, through the Inter-Agency Committee on Sustainable Development, for which the subprogramme provides the secretariat;

(b) Enhanced dialogue with and involvement of major groups as defined in Agenda 21, including women, youth, indigenous people, business and industry, trade unions, the scientific community, farmers and non-governmental organizations, in the work of the Commission and in sustainable development activities in general;

(c) Effective monitoring of the implementation of sustainable development goals through the assessment of data collected at the national, regional and international levels, taking into account the results of work on indicators of sustainable development;

(d) Enhanced international cooperation, in particular South-South cooperation, in the area of sustainable development, including through regional and subregional exchanges of experience in the implementation of Agenda 21, as well as through implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;

(e) Effective capacity-building at the national level.

Indicators of achievement

7.22 Indicators of achievement would include:

(a) Satisfaction expressed in the quality of policy support provided to intergovernmental processes;

(b) An increase in the number of collaborative arrangements and consultative processes involving the United Nations system;

(c) The number of activities carried out by major groups and their overall involvement;

(d) An increase in technical cooperation activities in support of elaboration and formulation with a view to implementation of national strategies for sustainable development in accordance with the goal outlined in paragraph 24 (a) of the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 (resolution S/19-2, annex);

(e) Usefulness of the advisory services and/or technical cooperation projects provided and/or implemented under the subprogramme;

(f) An increase in voluntary reporting to the Commission on Sustainable Development.

Subprogramme 5
Statistics

Objective

7.23 The objective is to promote international comparability of statistics through the standardization of statistical methods, classifications and definitions used by national statistical agencies and to reach international agreement on the use and usefulness of relevant concepts and methods. The Statistical Commission provides intergovernmental guidance to the subprogramme.

Strategy

7.24 The Statistics Division is responsible for the subprogramme. The strategy will include:

(a) Developing statistical methodologies and determining their application in the international collection, standardization, analysis and dissemination of economic, social and related data and metadata;

(b) Enhancing the position of the United Nations as a global centre for statistical data on international trade, national accounts, energy, environment and demographic and social statistics through the collection, processing, evaluation and dissemination of international statistics;

(c) Further improving the usefulness and accessibility of international economic and social data to policy makers, both international and national;

(d) Implementing fully the United Nations Economic and Social Information System (UNESIS) common database as a unifying framework for the dissemination of international statistics;

(e) Promoting the use of geographical information systems for modern surveying and mapping activities at the national and local levels.

7.25 Advisory services would be provided, on request, to developing countries and countries with economies in transition to improve their statistical capacity, including through training and other forms of technical cooperation, and to strengthen their ability to routinely produce relevant, accurate and timely statistics and indicators. Close collaboration with other international organizations would continue in order to improve economic, social, demographic, environmental, trade and other related statistics in general and to promote the systems in particular, including through training and other forms of technical cooperation. Also, a coordinated system of international statistical programmes and activities would be further promoted, in particular by emphasizing new Internet and information management technologies.

Expected accomplishments

7.26 Expected accomplishments would include:

(a) Enhancement of the comparability of statistics among countries and improved methods and procedures for the measurement of economic and social phenomena;

(b) Effective response to new and critical issues in the field of statistics;

(c) Improvement in the availability, usefulness and accessibility of international economic and social data to policy makers, both international and national;

(d) Improvement in the quality of statistical data submitted to international organizations and agencies;

(e) Strengthened capacity of national statistical offices in developing countries and countries with economies in transition to routinely produce and analyse statistical data;

(f) Increased participation of countries in the global statistical system;

(g) Increased collaboration and complementarity of activities among international organizations and agencies in the field of statistics;

(h) Progress in the rationalization and harmonization of development indicators based on decisions made by the Economic and Social Council;

(i) Increased cooperation among international organizations on the questions of standards, classifications, definitions, concrete national data sets, data collection and data processing.

Indicators of achievement

7.27 Indicators of achievement would include:

(a) An increase in the number of requests by users for the Division's statistical data;

(b) An increase in the number of countries adopting international statistical standards;

(c) Enlargement of subregional networks as a result of technical cooperation activities;

(d) The number of collaborative agreements reached between statistical institutions;

(e) Satisfaction expressed by users about the quality, availability, usefulness and accessibility of the statistical data produced under the subprogramme.

Subprogramme 6
Population

Objective

7.28 The objective is to increase understanding of the nature of demographic phenomena, in particular the interrelationships between population and development. The Commission on Population and Development provides intergovernmental guidance to the subprogramme.

Strategy

7.29 The Population Division is entrusted with the responsibility for this subprogramme. The strategy will include:

(a) Provision of substantive support to the Commission on Population and Development;

(b) Provision of assistance in the ongoing review, monitoring and assessment of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development in achieving the key actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action and in its second quinquennial review and appraisal;

(c) Preparation of official United Nations population estimates and projections, including age and sex patterns in mortality and fertility data, for all countries and areas of the world, as well as the official United Nations estimates and projections of urban and rural areas and major cities;

(d) Effective dissemination of worldwide population information, via the Internet, including through the Population Information Network (POPIN), and other means.

Expected accomplishments

7.30 Expected accomplishments would include:

(a) The provision of greater support to the Programme of Action as well as to the key issues for their further implementation adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-first special session;

(b) Expanded capacity of Member States to analyse and apply population trends and policies for development and to monitor, appraise and report on substantive elements of the key actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action;

(c) Enhanced ability of Member States to formulate national population and related policies, to improve their national institutional capabilities for the collection and analysis of national population information and to enable the application of this information for the effective implementation of the Programme of Action and the outcome of the twenty-first special session of the General Assembly.

Indicators of achievement

7.31 Indicators of achievement would include:

(a) An increase in the number of Governments accessing information on population trends and their interrelationships with social and economic development as an input to policy formulation;

(b) A noticeable increase in the understanding of the complex interaction between demographic and development issues and extensive awareness about emerging population issues requiring the attention and response of the international community, such as the AIDS pandemic, international migration and population ageing;

(c) The timeliness, quality and accessibility of official United Nations population estimates and projections as assessed by the users.

Subprogramme 7
Global development trends, issues and policies

Objective

7.32 The objective is to effectively assist the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council in their efforts to identify and reach agreement on the economic and financial policies necessary at the national and international levels to improve growth and development prospects.

Strategy

7.33 The Development Policy Analysis Division is responsible for the subprogramme. The strategy will include:

(a) Supporting the efforts of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, and economies in transition to mobilize financial resources for development by advancing the outcomes of the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries and the High-level International Intergovernmental Event on Financing for Development, to be held in 2001;

(b) Addressing, through research and analysis, issues pertaining to domestic resource mobilization, augmentation of official development assistance and increasing international private capital flows; the new challenges faced by the international financial system; and the financial opportunities and challenges presented by the increased role of the private sector in economic activity and the globalization of financial markets;

(c) Providing the analysis of necessary actions to promote international financial stability to improve early warning, prevention and response capabilities for dealing with the emergence and spread of financial crises in a timely manner, and to reform the international financial system, while also remaining responsive to the challenges of development and the protection of the most vulnerable countries and social groups, including evaluation of the role of the international financial institutions;

(d) Providing assistance, on request, to Member States and relevant intergovernmental bodies in examining developmental trends, identifying new and emerging long-term development challenges and formulating long-term development strategies. Thus, the subprogramme would contribute to the formulation of new goals and strategies for long-term development;

(e) Fostering closer collaboration and understanding among the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Bretton Woods institutions.

Expected accomplishments

7.34 Noteworthy among the expected accomplishments would be a constructive dialogue on macroeconomic policy issues in the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council through systematic surveys of the global economy and the provision of substantive support to the policy processes, such as those relating to the High-level International Intergovernmental Event on Financing for Development and the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries.

Indicators of achievement

7.35 Indicators of achievement would include a percentage increase in the number of consensus decisions reached and action taken by the United Nations, the international community in general and Governments on measures to accelerate growth and development in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, including implementation of national, regional and international efforts to make the global financial system more responsive to the challenges of development that emanate from the high-level event on financing for development and the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries.

Subprogramme 8
Public administration, finance and development

Objective

7.36 The objective is to provide assistance in intergovernmental policy deliberations on the role of public administration, public finance and public economics in the development process and to assist interested Governments of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in strengthening their policy-making, institutional and managerial capacities in those areas. Particular attention should be given to strengthening countries' policy development, institutional and managerial capacity to deal with globalization and the respective roles of the State and the market in the development process. Guidance is provided to the subprogramme by the Group of Experts on the United Nations Programme in Public Administration and Finance and the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters.

Strategy

7.37 The Division for Public Economics and Public Administration is responsible for this subprogramme. The strategy will include:

(a) Provision of support to intergovernmental policy deliberations;

(b) Preparation of analytical studies and publications, dissemination of information and assessments and organization of expert group meetings and seminars;

(c) Provision, on request from and in close consultation with Member States, of advisory services, training and other technical cooperation activities in the areas of public economics, public administration and public finance;

(d) Facilitation of the development of human resources to enable the public sector to face the challenges and to exploit the benefits of globalization and interdependence;

(e) Development of analytical tools and options using adequate methodologies for impact assessment to respond to requests from Governments and international bodies for information, methodologies and assessments regarding the linkages between political and economic issues and policies, such as economic sanctions, imposition of coercive economic measures, the relationship between disarmament and development and relevant aspects of post-conflict rehabilitation and reconstruction;

(f) Interfacing and cooperating with organizations within the United Nations system in this field.

Expected accomplishments

7.38 Expected accomplishments would include:

(a) Improved intergovernmental dialogue and facilitation of consensus-building and decision-making regarding the emerging consequences of globalization for the State;

(b) Broadened common understanding of and approaches to public management and the changing of Governments' capacities;

(c) Strengthened institutional and human resources of government capacities in public administration, finance and development;

(d) Broader and deeper understanding of the major effects of public administration and public finance on civil society;

(e) Improved interface and coordination between the intergovernmental and regional policy deliberations and operational activities of the United Nations system in the field of public administration, finance and development;

(f) Enhanced understanding of the Internet on the role of the State;

(g) Enhanced ability to assess emerging vulnerabilities in government capacities in public administration, finance and development;

(h) Improved understanding of complex regulatory practices for emerging global standards;

(i) Greater participation of governmental and non-governmental entities in the work of the United Nations Programme in Public Administration and Finance.

Indicators of achievement

7.39 Indicators of achievement would include:

(a) The level of satisfaction for the support provided by the subprogramme to the expert groups and the policy processes;

(b) The number and quality of technical advisory services provided to requesting countries and the impact on capacity-building in those countries;

(c) The number of established information networks among policy makers, practitioners and experts within and between regions;

(d) The number and quality of analytical reports and publications on emerging issues in public administration and finance.

Legislative mandates

Programme 7
Economic and social affairs

General Assembly resolutions

47/190	Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (subprogrammes 4, 5, 6 and 7)
47/191	Institutional arrangements to follow up the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (subprogrammes 4, 5 and 6)
48/121	World Conference on Human Rights (subprogrammes 2, 5 and 6)
50/119	Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries and a United Nations conference on South-South cooperation (subprogrammes 3, 4 and 8)
50/161	Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development (subprogrammes 3, 5, 6 and 8)
50/203	Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action (subprogrammes 2, 5 and 6)
50/227	Further measures for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields (subprogrammes 1 and 7)
51/240	Agenda for Development (subprogrammes 1, 7 and 8)
52/186	Renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership (subprogrammes 1 and 7)
53/192	Triennial policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system (subprogrammes 1 and 2, 3 and 8)

Economic and Social Council resolutions

1998/7	Importance of population census activities for evaluation of progress in implementing the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (subprogrammes 5 and 6)
1999/55	Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits (all subprogrammes)

Subprogramme 1
Economic and Social Council support and coordination

General Assembly resolutions

52/12 A and B	Renewing the United Nations: a programme for reform
53/169	Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence

Economic and Social Council resolutions

1986/72	Protection against products harmful to health and the environment
1996/31	Consultative relationship between the United Nations and non-governmental organizations
1999/5	Poverty eradication and capacity-building
1999/6	Progress on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 53/192
1999/51	Restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields and cooperation between the United Nations and the Bretton Woods institutions

Economic and Social Council agreed conclusions

1995/1	Coordinated follow-up by the United Nations system and implementation of the results of the major international conferences organized by the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields
1997/1	Fostering an enabling environment for development: financial flows, including capital flows, investment and trade

Ministerial communiqués of the high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council

1998	Market access: developments since the Uruguay Round, implications, opportunities and challenges, in particular for the developing countries and the least developed among them, in the context of globalization and liberalization
1999	The role of employment and work in poverty eradication: the empowerment and advancement of women

Subprogramme 2
Gender issues and advancement of women

General Assembly resolutions

34/180	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
54/4	Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

54/133	Traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls
54/134	International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women
54/135	Improvement of the situation of women in rural areas
54/137	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
54/138	Violence against women migrant workers
54/139	Improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat
54/141	Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action
54/210	Women in development

Economic and Social Council resolutions

76 (V)	Communications concerning the status of women
304 (XI)	Report of the Commission on the Status of Women (fourth session)
1992/19	Communications on the status of women
1996/6	Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women
1998/26	Advancement of women: implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the role of operational activities in promoting, in particular, capacity-building and resource mobilization for enhancing the participation of women in development
1999/16	System-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women, 2002-2005

Economic and Social Council agreed conclusions

1997/2	Mainstreaming the gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system

Subprogramme 3
Social policy and development

General Assembly resolutions

47/5	Proclamation on Ageing
50/81	World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond
50/107	Observance of the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty and proclamation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty
50/144	Towards full integration of persons with disabilities in society: implementation of the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities and of the Long-term

	Strategy to Implement the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons to the Year 2000 and Beyond
52/82	Implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons: towards a society for all in the twenty-first century
53/109	International Year of Older Persons, 1999
54/23	Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development
54/24	Follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons
54/120	Policies and programmes involving youth
54/124	Follow-up to the International Year of the Family
54/232	Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty

Economic and Social Council resolutions

1996/7	Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the future role of the Commission for Social Development

Economic and Social Council agreed conclusions

1996/1	Coordination of the United Nations system activities for poverty eradication

Subprogramme 4
Sustainable development

General Assembly resolutions

50/126	Water supply and sanitation
S-19/2	Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21
S-22/2	Declaration and state of progress and initiatives for the future implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States
54/33	Results of the review by the Commission on Sustainable Development of the sectoral theme of "oceans and seas": international coordination and cooperation
54/215	World Solar Programme 1996-2005
54/218	Implementation of and follow-up to the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly
54/224	Implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States
54/225	Promoting an integrated management approach to the Caribbean Sea area in the context of sustainable development

Economic and Social Council resolutions and decisions

1996/49	Integration of key minerals issues into the implementation of Agenda 21
1997/53	Consumer protection
1997/63	Programme of work of the Commission on Sustainable Development for the period 1998-2002 and future methods of work of the Commission
1997/65	Establishment of an ad hoc open-ended Intergovernmental Forum on Forests
1998/46	Further measures for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields
1999/60	Preparations for the ninth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development, on energy issues
1999/222	Report of the Commission on Sustainable Development on its seventh session and provisional agenda for the eighth session of the Commission

Subprogramme 5
Statistics

General Assembly resolutions

50/124	Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

Economic and Social Council resolutions and decisions

1564 (L)	Principles and recommendations for a vital statistics system
1566 (L)	Coordination of work in the field of statistics
1989/3	International economic classifications
1993/5	1993 System of National Accounts
1993/226	Sixth and Seventh United Nations Conferences on the Standardization of Geographical Names
1995/7	2000 World Population and Housing Census Programme
1995/61	The need to harmonize and improve United Nations information systems for optimal utilization and accessibility by all States
1997/221	Fourteenth and Fifteenth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conferences for Asia and the Pacific
1997/292	Sixth and Seventh United Nations Regional Cartographic Conferences for the Americas

Subprogramme 6
Population

General Assembly resolutions

49/128	Report of the International Conference on Population and Development
51/176	Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development
S-21/2	Proposals for key actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development
54/212	International migration and development

Economic and Social Council resolutions

1994/2	Work programme in the field of population
1995/55	Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development
1997/2	International migration and development
1997/42	Follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development
1999/10	Population growth, structure and distribution

Subprogramme 7
Global development trends, issues and policies

General Assembly resolutions

S-18/3	Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries
51/165	Net flows and transfer of resources between developing and developed countries
52/180	Global financial flows and their impact on the developing countries
52/185	Enhancing international cooperation towards a durable solution to the external debt problem of developing countries
53/172	The financial crisis and its impact on growth and development, especially in the developing countries
53/179	Integration of the economies in transition into the world economy
54/196	High-level international intergovernmental consideration of financing for development
54/197	Towards a stable international financial system, responsive to the challenges of development, especially in the developing countries

54/206	Implementation of the commitments and policies agreed upon in the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, and implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade
54/213	Renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership
54/231	Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence

Subprogramme 8
Public administration, finance and development

General Assembly resolutions

46/166	Entrepreneurship
47/171	Privatization in the context of economic restructuring, economic growth and sustainable development
48/180	Entrepreneurship and privatization for economic growth and sustainable development
50/51	Implementation of provisions of the Charter of the United Nations related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions
50/103	Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s
50/225	Public administration and development
51/242	Supplement to an Agenda for Peace
52/18	Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies
52/38 D	General and complete disarmament: relationship between disarmament and development
52/162	Implementation of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions
52/169 H	Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: special economic assistance to individual countries or regions: economic assistance to States affected by the implementation of the Security Council resolutions imposing sanctions on the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia
52/193	First United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty
52/196	Developing human resources for development

52/203	Operational activities for development of the United Nations
52/205	Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries
53/179	Integration of the economies in transition into the world economy
54/54 T	Relationship between disarmament and development
54/96 G	Economic assistance to the Eastern European States affected by the developments in the Balkans
54/107	Implementation of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions
54/200	Unilateral economic measures as a means of political and economic coercion against developing countries
54/204	Business and development

Economic and Social Council resolutions

1273 (XLIII)	Tax treaties between developed and developing countries
1982/45	International cooperation in tax matters
1997/59	Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation: follow-up to policy recommendations of the General Assembly
1999/59	Assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions

Programme 8
Africa: New Agenda for Development

Overall orientation

8.1 The programme was established subsequent to the identification by the General Assembly of the economic recovery and sustainable development of Africa as a top priority of the United Nations. It was designed to be a catalyst and to coordinate and promote activities undertaken by other programmes and entities directly responsible for the operational implementation of such activities. The programme was to play an advocacy role to ensure that the issues related to African development remained on the agenda of the United Nations and the international community.

8.2 The objectives of the programme are to: (a) mobilize the support and galvanize the efforts of the international community for African development, including through an increased flow of financial resources; (b) ensure that the development of Africa remains one of the priorities of the international community; (c) promote a supportive framework for African development efforts; (d) promote a coordinated and effective response by the United Nations system at the policy and operational levels in support of African development; and (e) strengthen and enhance South-South cooperation.

8.3 The mandate of the programme derives from various General Assembly resolutions, especially resolutions 53/90, 54/232 and 54/234. The activities to be undertaken within the framework of this programme are also derived from the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa, in which he made wide-ranging recommendations on the question of peace and development in Africa; the Organization of African Unity resolution entitled "Relaunching Africa's economic and social development: the Cairo Agenda for Action"; and the Tokyo Agenda for Action, adopted by the Second Tokyo International Conference on African Development in 1998.

8.4 While there have been signs of economic recovery in Africa since the launching of this programme, it is not yet strong enough nor sustained enough to reduce poverty or to contribute to the structural transformation of the region's economies. A wide range of problems, such as over-dependence on exports of a few primary commodities, the challenges of good governance and sound macroeconomic policies, desertification and environmental degradation, debt overhang, declining official development assistance against the backdrop of the continuing low level of domestic savings and investment, low level of foreign direct investment as well as the problems relating to the HIV/AIDS pandemic, post-conflict reconstruction and the emergence of new conflicts, undermine sustained growth and sustainable development in Africa. These have a negative impact on the successful integration of Africa into the global economy. Also, the ongoing pattern of natural disasters is reversing the limited economic gains made in recent years.

8.5 The efforts to address the problems of the development of Africa under this programme would need to continue over the plan period. A final review of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s will be carried out in 2002. It is expected that the outcome of this review would provide further guidance to the programme in the plan period.

8.6 The programme's strategy would be organized around three main sets of activities: (a) the mobilization and coordination of international support; (b) enhanced monitoring and assessment of activities; and (c) advocacy and global awareness of the region's critical economic and social situation. To that end, at the policy level the programme would facilitate the work of intergovernmental and ad hoc bodies that discuss Africa through the submission of high-quality studies, proposals for action and progress reports on the status of implementation of action programmes. At the operational level, it would be based on the utilization of regular consultations and information sharing on the priorities established by national Governments and intergovernmental processes with a view to enabling Africa to derive maximum benefit from improved coordination of the activities undertaken by the agencies of the United Nations system. The programme would actively promote partnership between Africa and the stakeholders in its development through a better flow of information and organizing forums for policy makers and experts.

8.7 The programme will be under the joint responsibility of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and the Department of Public Information. The Department of Economic and Social Affairs, through the Office of the Special Coordinator for Africa and the Least Developed Countries, provides overall coordination and leadership of the programme.

Subprogramme 1
Mobilization of international support and global coordination

Objective

8.8 The objective of the subprogramme is to mobilize the international community in support of the sustainable development of Africa and to strengthen the impact of the advocacy and policy initiatives of the Secretary-General on African development.

Strategy

8.9 Substantive responsibility for the subprogramme is vested in the Office of the Special Coordinator for Africa and the Least Developed Countries of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs. The subprogramme's strategy will be geared to creating an environment that enables the international community to commit its support to initiatives on Africa and to give effect to its commitments, and to enhancing ownership by African countries of their development processes. To that end, it will promote and strengthen the partnership between Africa and its development partners through the exchange of experiences and improved flow of information, based on the priorities of the New Agenda for the Development of Africa. The subprogramme will also encourage increased cooperation between Africa and the other regions, including through the Tokyo International Conference on African Development process and other initiatives for greater South-South cooperation. At the policy level, it will contribute to the coordination of the response of the United Nations system to Africa through inputs, as necessary, to the work of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Committee for Programme and Coordination. In addition, the subprogramme will promote implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations global conferences as they affect Africa, especially actions pertaining to the eradication of poverty and the integration of African countries into the global economy.

Expected accomplishments

8.10 The expected accomplishments would include: (a) enhanced partnership between Africa and its development partners contributing to increased support to efforts within the region; (b) greater awareness and understanding of African development issues, including those related to post-conflict situations; and (c) improved coordination of efforts by development partners in addressing the needs of Africa.

Indicators of achievement

8.11 The indicators of achievement would include: (a) an increase in the level of resource flows to Africa (bearing in mind that there are various factors that will significantly affect the level of resources); (b) an assessment of the quality and timeliness of reports submitted to intergovernmental policy-making and review bodies to facilitate deliberations on Africa; (c) the number and usefulness of briefing sessions on issues concerning African development; (d) the number and usefulness of South-South forums sponsored or co-sponsored; (e) the number of visits to the Africa web page; and (f) the use of databases on the activities of non-governmental organizations and other non-governmental partners contributing to African development.

Subprogramme 2
Monitoring, assessment, facilitation and follow-up to the implementation of action programmes for African development

Objective

8.12 The objective of the subprogramme is to ensure implementation of the action programmes and initiatives on African development.

Strategy

8.13 Substantive responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in the Economic Commission for Africa. The element of the strategy will include improving collaboration and coordination with agencies of the

United Nations system with a view to ensuring effective implementation of the United Nations System-wide Special Initiative for the Implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s and of the agreed outcome of the final review and appraisal of the New Agenda. In that regard, the subprogramme will draw lessons from the experiences of Member States and agencies of the United Nations system in implementing the action programmes and will disseminate the information and best practices to the various stakeholders in African development.

8.14 Additional activities include the organization of workshops, seminars and expert meetings aimed at promoting better awareness among African policy makers of Africa-related initiatives and programmes. The subprogramme will foster partnerships so as to facilitate support for implementation of the action programmes. Efforts will also be exerted to contribute to the implementation of the recommendations of the Secretary-General pertaining to post-conflict reconstruction with particular focus on capacity-building for economic management. To that end, in some selected instances and upon request, technical cooperation activities related to post-conflict reconstruction and development will be implemented, including the training of development personnel on priority development issues.

Expected accomplishments

8.15 The expected accomplishments would include: (a) progress in the implementation of the programmes of action; (b) enhanced partnership among the stakeholders in Africa's development; (c) enhanced impact of United Nations agencies operating in Africa resulting from improved coordination and coherence in their work; (d) improved reporting on and dissemination of experiences in the implementation of programmes and initiatives on Africa; and (e) strengthened national economic management capacity as an integral component of peace-building and post-conflict reconstruction.

Indicators of achievement

8.16 Indicators of achievement would include: (a) expressions of satisfaction over the support provided to Member States in implementing the programmes of action; (b) the number and impact of joint activities between ECA and other multilateral and bilateral agencies implementing the relevant programmes of action; (c) the number and impact of joint activities undertaken between ECA and other United Nations agencies operating in Africa to improve and enhance coordination and collaboration; (d) the number and impact of forums and expert meetings organized to assess and monitor the rate of implementation of the action programmes; and (e) the number and impact of training activities organized and development personnel benefiting from them.

Subprogramme 3
Campaign for global awareness of the critical economic situation in Africa

Objective

8.17 The objective of the subprogramme is to raise international awareness of the critical social and economic situation in Africa as well as of the efforts made by Africa and the international community in order to promote the economic recovery and sustainable development of the region.

Strategy

8.18 Substantive responsibility for the subprogramme is vested in the Africa Recovery Unit of the Department of Public Information. The strategy is based on maintaining the spotlight on Africa and ensuring international awareness of the region's social and economic crises and the efforts under way to address them. In so doing, the subprogramme will draw international attention to the relevant thematic issues, based on the priorities outlined in the action programmes, and policies and events at the global and regional levels as well as their impact on the development prospects of African countries. To that end, regular and ad hoc publications, including the quarterly *Africa Recovery* newsletter, a series of briefing papers, occasional press kits and press releases and radio programmes — in local languages and with greater emphasis on local content — will be prepared and disseminated as widely as possible.

Expected accomplishments

8.19 The expected accomplishments would include: (a) greater awareness in Africa and within the international community of the nature of the region's critical economic and social situation and of the African and international efforts required for recovery and development; (b) better understanding of the major international and national initiatives and events that contribute to Africa's economic progress.

Indicators of achievement

8.20 The indicators of achievement would include: (a) assessment by users of the quality and volume of information disseminated regionally and internationally through the print and electronic media outlets; (b) the timely and regular issuance of *Africa Recovery*; and (c) the number and quality of informational materials prepared and media events organized in order to maintain the international spotlight on Africa.

Legislative mandates

Programme 8
Africa: New Agenda for Development

General Assembly resolutions

51/32	Mid-term review of the implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s
53/90	Implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s
54/35	Zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic
54/232	Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty
54/234	The causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa

Security Council resolutions

1170 (1998)

1197 (1998)

Programme 9
Trade and development

Overall orientation

9.1 The overall purpose of the programme is the integration of developing countries into the world economy in a manner that enhances the development opportunities of and addresses the problems associated with the globalization process while helping to shape international economic relations in the twenty-first century. The mandates for the programme flow from the role and responsibilities assigned to the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) by the General Assembly, beginning with its resolution 1995 (XIX), by which UNCTAD was established, the quadrennial United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the Economic and Social Council, and the Trade and Development Board and its subsidiary bodies. Mandates for the coming four years are set out in the Bangkok Declaration: Global Dialogue and Dynamic Engagement (TD/387) and the Plan of Action (TD/386) adopted by UNCTAD at its tenth session, held from 12 to 19 February 2000.

9.2 The programme will be implemented by UNCTAD and the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO (ITC). The Centre's original mandate derives from General Assembly resolution 2297 (XXII). In its resolution 1819 (LV), the Economic and Social Council affirmed the role of ITC as the focal point for United Nations technical cooperation activities in trade promotion. ITC receives policy guidance from its parent bodies, UNCTAD and the World Trade Organization (WTO), and general direction from the annual meetings of the Joint Advisory Group, an intergovernmental body open to States members of UNCTAD and WTO.

9.3 At the tenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Member States recognized that ensuring that all countries enjoy the benefits of globalization requires meeting complex policy challenges that arise, particularly at the macroeconomic level, from the growing interdependence of the various spheres of economic activity, including, in particular, trade, finance and investment, and the downside risks that this interdependence sometimes carries. Member States reiterated that, as the focal point within the United Nations for the integrated treatment of trade and development and the interrelated issues in finance, technology, investment and sustainable development, UNCTAD is pre-eminently placed to examine these issues and to build consensus on policies in a globalizing world from a development perspective. Incorporated in this perspective should be the evaluation of the developmental impact of globalization, as outlined in the Plan of Action.

9.4 In order to achieve its objectives, UNCTAD acts as a forum for intergovernmental discussions, supported by discussions with experts, aimed at consensus-building; undertakes research and analysis, to provide, inter alia, substantive inputs for those discussions; and provides related technical assistance tailored to the needs of beneficiary countries, concentrating on capacity-building. In this respect, UNCTAD will also undertake the new activities agreed to at the tenth session of UNCTAD, including the provision of training courses on key issues on the international economic agenda. UNCTAD will focus its work on four areas of activity: globalization and development; investment, enterprise development and technology; trade in goods and services and commodity issues; and services infrastructure for development and trade efficiency. The strategy to be followed takes into account the emphasis by Member States at the tenth session of UNCTAD on the role of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as the focal point for the United Nations system for least developed country issues. It will also take into account issues such as economic cooperation among developing countries and a gender perspective aiming at achieving gender equality in all economic sectors. The special needs and interests of small island developing States, landlocked developing countries, transit developing countries, structurally weak and vulnerable economies and economies in transition will also be taken into account, as specified in chapter II of the Plan of Action. UNCTAD will continue its work with the private sector, non-governmental organizations, academia and parliamentarians with a view to addressing the challenges and opportunities of globalization and making progress towards a better and fairer integration of developing countries into the world economy.

9.5 ITC will complement the research, policy and normative work of its parent bodies, UNCTAD and WTO, by concentrating on operational issues related to the provision of information, product and market development, institutional development and support services for trade promotion, export development and international purchasing and supply management.

9.6 The follow-up to the outcome of the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries would constitute the core mandate for UNCTAD on work relating to least developed countries. The Global Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and the Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation between Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and the Donor Community would be the basis for the focal role of UNCTAD with regard to work concerning small island developing States, landlocked developing countries and transit developing countries. Subprogrammes 1 to 4 will continue to devote special attention to Africa, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States.

9.7 UNCTAD will be responsible for subprogrammes 1 to 5, while ITC will be responsible for subprogramme 6.

Subprogramme 1
Globalization, interdependence and development

A. Globalization, interdependence and development

Objective

9.8 The objective of the subprogramme is to contribute to international debate on the evolution and management of the consequences of globalization and to promote policies and strategies at the national, regional and international levels that are conducive to sustained economic growth and sustainable development.

Strategy

9.9 The Division on Globalization and Development Strategies bears substantive responsibility for this subprogramme. Through dissemination of its analytical work and provision of a forum for exchange of views and perspectives, the subprogramme will contribute to increased understanding of the implications of global interdependence, macroeconomic reforms and structural adjustment for sustained economic growth and sustainable development, as well as to greater coherence of global economic policy-making and identification of policy approaches and actions with a focus on their effects on growth and development. The interdependence between trade, finance, technology and investment and the impact of such interdependence on development will contribute to achieving coherence in global economic policy-making. Issues to be taken up will include the debt problems of developing countries, trends in official development assistance flows and the role of regional integration. The subprogramme will bring a development perspective to financial and monetary issues by focusing on finance for development and by contributing to the debate on issues relating to the need for the reform of the international financial institutions, including the enhancement of early warning response capabilities for dealing with the emergence and spread of financial crises. Through its analysis, the subprogramme will support developing countries in designing sound domestic macroeconomic and financial policies and policies to improve the positive effects of globalization and to minimize the negative ones; in strengthening their domestic forces of growth through capital accumulation; and in reforming their institutions and building capacity in the context of the indispensable foundation for the realization of people-centred sustainable development, such as expanding and strengthening the democratic basis of institutions and ensuring sound public administration, in accordance with paragraph 109 of the Plan of Action adopted by UNCTAD at its tenth session. The subprogramme will continue its work in assisting the Palestinian people to develop capacity for effective policy-making and management pertaining to international trade, investment and related services. Work in the subprogramme will take into consideration the experiences in the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s and will aim at contributing to the follow-up of the high-level international intergovernmental consideration of financing for development, the implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and related General Assembly resolutions, and at addressing the needs of landlocked and transit developing countries and structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies.

Expected accomplishments

9.10 The expected accomplishments of the subprogramme would include increased understanding of the problems and an improvement in the ability of policy makers to design appropriate policies and strategies related to the evolution and management of globalization, global interdependence and their implications for development policies and prospects.

Indicators of achievement

9.11 Indicators of achievement would include: (a) the timeliness, usefulness, degree of implementation and quality of the subprogramme's research and analysis programme, as measured by readership and other surveys; (b) Member States' views on the practical value and impact on the development prospects of developing countries of policy recommendations, as expressed in the conclusions of the regular review of the work programmes undertaken by intergovernmental bodies; and (c) the degree of implementation, effectiveness and impact of technical cooperation activities, as assessed by indicators contained in the relevant project documents.

B. Development of Africa

Objective

9.12 The objective of this subprogramme is to increase understanding of the economic development problems of Africa and to promote action required at the national, regional and international levels for the acceleration of African development and fuller participation and positive integration of African countries into the world economy.

Strategy

9.13 The Division on Globalization and Development Strategies bears substantive responsibility for the subprogramme. The subprogramme will undertake research on specific challenges to the development of Africa, coordinate analytical work of UNCTAD in support of the objectives of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s (UN-NADAF), and contribute to regional and subregional integration as well as to various other international initiatives on Africa, including cooperation with other United Nations bodies and organizations in the context of the United Nations System-wide Special Initiative on Africa, in view of the role of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as lead agency for the trade access and opportunities cluster of the Initiative. It will also contribute to consensus-building on regional and international policy actions in support of African development.

Expected accomplishments

9.14 Expected accomplishments would include an increased understanding of national and international policy choices to promote African development in the areas of expertise of UNCTAD.

Indicators of achievement

9.15 Indicators of achievement would include progress towards targets in UN-NADAF and other relevant international initiatives and the quality of debate, outcomes and initiatives in response to work undertaken by the subprogramme in the relevant intergovernmental bodies and other organizations and forums.

Subprogramme 2
Investment, enterprise and technology

Objective

9.16 With a view to increasing beneficial international investment flows to developing countries and the benefits they derive from those flows, the objective of this subprogramme is to improve understanding of issues and policy choices in international investment, enterprise internationalization and technology transfer, to strengthen developing countries' abilities to formulate and implement policies, measures and action programmes in those areas and to promote understanding of emerging issues in order to strengthen those countries' ability to participate in discussions and negotiations.

Strategy

9.17 Substantive responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in the Division on Investment, Technology and Enterprise Development. In implementing the subprogramme, the Division will continue to strengthen its role as the major source of comprehensive information and analysis of international investment, focusing on the development dimension and on the integration of investment, transnational corporations, technology and enterprise development issues. The subprogramme will provide analysis on the role of multinational enterprises in promoting development. The subprogramme will support developing countries' efforts to respond to technological and scientific changes and to develop policy instruments for facilitating technology transfer. It will conduct research and policy analysis with a view to improving the understanding of key policy issues related to the role of foreign investment, transnational corporations, technological capacity-building and enterprise internationalization, including small and medium-sized enterprises. It will also analyse the role of international investment arrangements for the purpose of attracting and benefiting from foreign investment, enhancing technological capacity and promoting enterprise, and will also analyse the role of such arrangements in the development process. Through its related technical assistance, the subprogramme will focus on enhancing national ability to formulate and implement policies to attract and benefit from foreign investment, strengthen technological capacities and foster the development of enterprises. The subprogramme will also analyse the implications of foreign portfolio investment for development and the role of transnational corporations in international investment, enterprise internationalization, transfer of technology and globalization.

Expected accomplishments

9.18 Expected accomplishments would include an improved understanding of issues related to international investment, enterprise internationalization and technology transfer; the improved ability of policy makers to design appropriate policies and strategies in order to attract and benefit from foreign investment, strengthening technological capacities and fostering the development of enterprises at the national, regional and international levels; global activities of transnational corporations; and increased understanding of key concepts of treaties and the development dimension of international investment agreements.

Indicators of achievement

9.19 Indicators of achievement would include: (a) the timeliness, usefulness, degree of implementation and quality of the subprogramme's research and analysis programme, as measured by readership and other surveys; (b) Member States' views on the practical value and impact on the development prospects of developing countries of policy recommendations, as expressed in the conclusions of the regular review of the work programmes undertaken by intergovernmental bodies; and (c) the degree of implementation, effectiveness and impact of technical cooperation activities, as assessed by indicators contained in the relevant project documents.

Subprogramme 3
International trade

Objective

9.20 With a view to assisting developing countries to integrate themselves more fully into, and derive benefits from, the international trading system and to increasing their participation in world trade, the objective of the subprogramme is to improve understanding of current and emerging issues in international trade of concern to developing countries and to enhance ability to address those concerns in the areas of agriculture, services, electronic commerce, competition law and policy and the trade-environment-development nexus.

Strategy

9.21 Substantive responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in the Division on International Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities. The subprogramme will address its objective by, inter alia, fostering more effective participation of developing countries in multilateral, regional and subregional trade negotiations and their enhanced participation in WTO itself (by submissions to the General Council and other bodies), and by contributing to the progress of accessions to WTO and to progress in regional and subregional trade arrangements. The strategy will furthermore involve: (a) empirical research and policy analysis to identify the parameters of the development dimensions of the multilateral trading system and the implications of existing and emerging multilateral trade rules for the development prospects of developing countries; (b) analysis of market access issues, including maximizing market access benefits for least developed countries; (c) supporting developing countries in multilateral trade negotiations and in the pursuit of regional integration; (d) analytical work and technical assistance to developing countries in multilateral negotiations on agriculture, as outlined in paragraph 133 of the Plan of Action adopted by UNCTAD at its tenth session; (e) analysis of issues related to trade liberalization in the services sector and to international proposals on electronic commerce; (f) supporting intergovernmental consensus-building in trade and WTO-related issues by, inter alia, facilitating the establishment of a positive agenda for developing countries in future trade negotiations, including ways to address constraints faced in deriving full benefits from the world trading system; (g) assisting developing countries and countries with economies in transition to identify effective trade policy tools for development, to accede to WTO and to expand trade between those groups of countries; (h) providing training to developing countries and interested countries with economies in transition on key issues on the international trade agenda; (i) providing assistance through the UNCTAD/WTO/ITC Joint Integrated Technical Assistance Programme for Selected Least Developed and Other African Countries; (j) enabling developing countries to address competition law and policy and consumer protection issues with particular relevance to development, including the relationship between competition and competitiveness and trade-related aspects of competition; (k) assisting developing countries in the development of their export-oriented commodity sectors, particularly their supply capacities, focusing on diversification; and (l) helping to ensure balance in the trade and environment debate by highlighting issues of concern to developing countries, strengthening the development dimension and identifying issues that would yield potential benefits to developing countries, including in the trade-related areas of public health, biodiversity, transfer of environmentally sound technologies and biotechnology.

Expected accomplishments

9.22 Expected accomplishments of the subprogramme would include strengthened capacity of developing countries to formulate, articulate and implement appropriate policies and strategies to participate effectively in and derive maximum benefit from international trade, including enhanced capacity for multilateral trade negotiations.

Indicators of achievement

9.23 Indicators of achievement would include: (a) the timeliness, usefulness, degree of implementation and quality of the subprogramme's research and analysis programme, as measured by readership and other surveys; (b) Member States' views on the practical value and impact on the development prospects of developing countries of policy recommendations, as expressed in the conclusions of the regular review of the work programmes undertaken by intergovernmental bodies; and (c) the degree of implementation, effectiveness and impact of technical cooperation activities, as assessed by indicators contained in the relevant project documents.

Subprogramme 4
Services infrastructure for development, trade efficiency and human resources development

Objective

9.24 The objective of this subprogramme is to enhance the capacity of developing countries and countries with economies in transition to improve their competitiveness in international trade by building an efficient trade-supporting services infrastructure, including through the use of information technologies.

Strategy

9.25 The Division for Services Infrastructure for Development and Trade Efficiency bears substantive responsibility for this subprogramme. The subprogramme will assist developing countries and countries with economies in transition through policy analysis, consensus-building and, where appropriate, technical assistance programmes to build more efficient trade-supporting services in the areas of customs, transportation, banking, insurance, tourism and microenterprises and to enhance the availability of skills, knowledge and capacities relevant to the conduct of foreign trade. Emphasis will be placed on facilitating trade through increased and more effective use of information technologies, especially the development-related aspects of electronic commerce, and on providing assistance to government institutions and enterprises and supporting their networking with academic institutions so as to promote human resource development, including the gender dimension, and to maximize the benefit of human resource development activities to enterprises.

Expected accomplishments

9.26 Expected accomplishments would include more efficient trade-supporting services and more effective human resource development in beneficiary countries of technical assistance and an improved understanding of policy options and strategies in those areas.

Indicators of achievement

9.27 Indicators of achievement would include: (a) the timeliness, usefulness, degree of implementation and quality of the subprogramme's research and analysis programme, as measured by readership and other surveys; (b) Member States' views on the practical value and impact on the development prospects of developing countries of policy recommendations, as expressed in the conclusions of the regular review of the work programmes undertaken by intergovernmental bodies; and (c) the degree of implementation, effectiveness and impact of technical cooperation activities, as assessed by indicators contained in the relevant project documents, as well as through the benchmarking of trade-supporting services.

Subprogramme 5

Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States

Objective

9.28 The objective of this subprogramme is to contribute to the progressive and beneficial integration and participation in the global economy and international trading system of least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, including through the implementation of the outcomes of the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries and contribution to the Integrated Framework for Trade-related Technical Assistance to Least Developed Countries, and to contribute to the graduation of least

Strategy

9.29 The Office of the Special Coordinator for Least Developed, Landlocked and Island Developing Countries will bear substantive responsibility for this subprogramme. It will pursue the subprogramme's objective by building on the coordination undertaken in the run-up to the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries by following up, monitoring and assessing the progress in the implementation of the outcomes of the Conference, General Assembly resolutions and other international initiatives, and by promoting the United Nations system-wide coordination of that implementation and following up the Integrated Framework for Trade-related Technical Assistance to Least Developed Countries. It will also continue to facilitate the implementation of the Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation between Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and the Donor Community and contribute to the implementation of the relevant aspects of the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States. It will further contribute to the consideration by the General Assembly and other relevant intergovernmental forums of the specific problems of least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, and coordinate technical assistance activities within UNCTAD in favour of those countries, including the development of transit systems in transit developing countries.

Expected accomplishments

9.30 Expected accomplishments would include the effective implementation of outcomes of the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries; progress in the implementation of the Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation between Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and the Donor Community; and effective contribution to the implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action in aspects relevant to UNCTAD.

Indicators of achievement

9.31 Indicators of achievement would include: (a) the timeliness, usefulness, degree of implementation and quality of the subprogramme's research and analysis value and impact on the development prospects of developing countries of policy recommendations, as expressed in the conclusions of the regular review of the work programmes undertaken by intergovernmental bodies; and (c) the degree of implementation, effectiveness and impact of technical cooperation activities, as assessed by indicators contained in the relevant project documents.

Subprogramme 6
Operational aspects of trade promotion and export development

Objective

9.32 The objective of this subprogramme is to build national capacity to identify new trading opportunities and to address the business implications of the multilateral trading system by creating links to specific products and markets, with a view to enabling developing countries and countries with economies in transition to realize their full potential for developing exports and improving import operations.

Strategy

9.33 ITC bears substantive responsibility for the implementation of this subprogramme. It will pursue the objective by providing downstream technical assistance on the operational issues of trade promotion and export development. The core programme of work is designed to meet the special needs of least developed countries on a priority basis.

9.34 In pursuit of its objective, ITC will: (a) establish and nurture national networks of trade experts to raise awareness and develop the capability to understand and respond to changes in the multilateral trading system; (b) offer a platform for discussion and facilitate the exchange of national experiences and best practices in finding business solutions to trade-related problems; (c) provide publications, training materials, courses and direct assistance related to the business implications of WTO agreements; (d) develop and apply tools for national surveys on export potential and strategic market research; (e) implement a "product-network" strategy involving the participative development of generic technical assistance products and their customization and dissemination through a network of partner institutions; (f) combine market intelligence for the export promotion of specific products and services, with particular emphasis on South-South trade and poverty reduction; (g) help national institutions in providing counselling services to enterprises in export planning, identification of customers, management of the supply chain, product development and adaptation, marketing, pricing, contracting and distribution; and (h) explore the synergies of the use of the COMTRADE database along with the Trade Analysis and Information System and allow developing countries wider access to these databases.

9.35 The strategy will involve interventions in the following functional areas: institutional development for trade promotion and specialized support services; export training capacity development; capacity-building in international purchasing and supply management; strategic and operational market research; sector-specific product and market development; trade information management; and technical cooperation coordination, including needs assessment and programme/project design.

Expected accomplishments

9.36 Expected accomplishments of this subprogramme would include: (a) the establishment of national core expertise in multilateral trading system issues that involves a good understanding of product and market reality and potential; (b) trade development strategies that take into account supply capacities and international demand and commercial practices; (c) a reinforcement of trade support institutions in providing efficient services to the business community (in downstream areas not covered by subprogramme 4); (d) improved trade performance in selected product and service sectors; and (e) increased entrepreneurship and competitiveness at the enterprise level.

Indicators of achievement

9.37 Indicators of achievement would focus on national capacity-building and would include the scope and quality of services provided by trade support institutions (as assessed by the end-users); the institutions' capacity to adapt to evolving needs; and the volume and quality of information flows within and among networks.

Legislative mandates

The mandates below apply to subprogrammes 1 to 5:

TD/386	Plan of Action, adopted by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its tenth session, on 19 February 2000
TD/387	Bangkok Declaration: Global Dialogue and Dynamic Engagement, adopted by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its tenth session, on 19 February 2000

Subprogramme 1
Globalization, interdependence and development

53/172	The financial crisis and its impact on growth and development, especially in the developing countries
54/196	High-level international intergovernmental consideration of financing for development
54/197	Towards a stable international financial system, responsive to the challenges of development, especially in the developing countries
54/231	Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence

Subprogramme 6
Operational aspects of trade promotion and export development

ITC/AG/(XXXIII)/181	Report of the Joint Advisory Group on the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO on its thirty-third session

Programme 10
Environment

Overall orientation

10.1 The overall objective of the programme is to provide leadership and encourage partnership in caring for the environment by inspiring, informing and enabling nations and peoples to improve their quality of life without compromising that of future generations.

10.2 The mandate for the programme derives from General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, which established the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the Environment Secretariat and the Environment Fund. The Governing Council of UNEP, in its decision 19/1 of 7 February 1997, redefined and clarified the role and mandate of UNEP in the Nairobi Declaration on the Role and Mandate of UNEP. By its resolution S/19-2 of 28 June 1997, the Assembly endorsed the new mandate of UNEP. The Assembly elaborated further on the mandate of UNEP in its resolution 53/242 of 28 July 1999.

10.3 Building on and consistent with the Nairobi Declaration and the decisions of the Governing Council adopted at its twentieth session, the overall strategy of UNEP for achieving the programme's objectives is broken down into seven functional, interdependent and complementary subprogrammes. The main elements of the overall strategy include: (a) filling the information and knowledge gap on critical environmental issues through more comprehensive assessments; (b) identifying and further developing the use of appropriate integrated policy measures in tackling the root causes of major environmental concerns; and (c) mobilizing action for better integration of international action to improve the environment, particularly in relation to regional and multilateral agreements, as well as United Nations system-wide collaborative arrangements.

10.4 The programme is implemented by the UNEP secretariat under the intergovernmental guidance of the Governing Council and in coordination with other relevant United Nations agencies and international organizations.

Subprogramme 1
Environmental assessment and early warning

Objective

10.5 The objective is to improve decision-making at the international and national levels through the provision of reliable and timely information on global environmental trends and conditions and emerging issues.

Strategy

10.6 Substantive responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in the Division of Environmental Assessment and Early Warning. In collaboration with appropriate United Nations and external partners, the subprogramme will alert the world to emerging problems by initiating periodic assessments of priority environmental issues; strengthening linkages among global, regional and national environmental observing programmes; and providing authoritative information for policy formulation and implementation. It will stimulate Governments and the international community to take action on environmental issues by: (a) promoting the availability of and enhancing access to relevant scientific information needed by decision makers to better protect and enhance the environment; (b) assessing environmental conditions and threats in order to alert policy makers and facilitate the development of alternative impact-reduction strategies; (c) devising strategies and contributing to early warning so as to better cope with emerging or recently recognized environmental threats; and (d) identifying emerging issues.

10.7 In addition, the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation will continue to compile and distribute scientific data on the impact of ionizing radiation on human beings and the environment.

Expected accomplishments

assessments and demonstration of support for and facilitation of the completion of correspondingly high-quality regional and national environmental assessments and their promotion; (b) enhanced coordination of environmental assessments and early warning through an international cooperative assessment framework and process; (c) increased ability to identify major emerging environmental problems, threats and emergencies and to prepare appropriate strategies and methodologies, including the Global Environmental Outlook; and (d) the effective dissemination and exchange of environmental data and information among countries to support decision-making in key environmental and sustainable development areas.

Indicators of achievement

10.9 Indicators of achievement would include: (a) feedback from Governments, individually or through intergovernmental bodies, and from international organizations and other relevant organizations; (b) appropriate capacity to enable timely environmental assessments to be undertaken by means of state-of-the-art scientific and technical analytical tools (e.g., institutional networking and development of methodologies, databases, environmental indicators, mechanisms for software tools and early warning) put in place and operated as needed; (c) the fulfilment in a timely manner of requests for support and/or backstopping in the development of assessment information products and services; (d) the use of conclusions and recommendations contained in results of a survey to be carried out in 2003 in formulating and implementing environmental policies; (e) the focusing of assessment information products and services on stakeholders and decision makers, and the adoption of recommendations in those assessments for further implementation and/or follow-up by Governments, key multilateral institutions and other stakeholders (e.g., Global Environment Facility) as relevant.

Subprogramme 2
Policy development and law

Objective

10.10 The objective of the subprogramme is to enable members of the international community to develop integrated and coherent policy responses to environmental problems and to improve compliance with and enforcement of legal instruments.

Strategy

10.11 Substantive responsibility for the subprogramme is vested in the Division of Environmental Policy Development and Law. In pursuit of the objective, the subprogramme will: assess the performance of environmental policies and develop policy strategies; promote the integration of environmental, economic, social and institutional aspects into governmental and intergovernmental decision-making and at all levels of the United Nations system in order to achieve sustainable development; strengthen intergovernmental dialogue for consensus-building on the root causes of major environmental problems; provide a forum for policy dialogue and information exchange; strengthen dialogue between various stakeholders for building synergy between environmental policy and social and economic development policies; and provide assistance to Member States in identifying the need for and the development of national policy instruments, especially those which implement international agreements. The subprogramme will also promote the participation of civil society and non-governmental organizations in environmental management, and will continue to mainstream a gender perspective into the full range of UNEP activities and subprogrammes.

Expected accomplishments

10.12 Expected accomplishments would include: (a) the implementation of a new strategic environmental law programme for the first decade of the millennium; (b) the updating and improvement of a global environmental agenda on the basis of a sound assessment of environmental trends and conditions at the national, regional and global levels; (c) the improvement of United Nations system-wide coordination of the global environmental agenda; (d) the initiation of new negotiations and the conclusion of agreements on certain emerging issues; (e) the implementation of an improved financial strategy to respond to the funding needs of UNEP; (f) the strengthening of partnerships with Governments as well as non-governmental organizations and other relevant actors of civil society; (g) the establishment and implementation of a programme in the field of compliance and enforcement of policy, legal, economic and other instruments; and (h) a better linkage between UNEP work and the international commitments agreed upon under multilateral environmental agreements in order to support those efforts, as appropriate.

Indicators of achievement

10.13 Indicators of achievement would include: (a) the adoption by the Governing Council of a new strategic environmental law programme; (b) feedback from Governments and other stakeholders on the global environmental agenda; (c) the number of policy responses and policy options initiated on emerging issues and the number of agreements concluded on such issues; (d) the adoption by Governments of the financial strategy for UNEP and the observation of improvement in the financial situation of UNEP; (e) the number of projects or programmatic activities implemented relating to compliance and enforcement of policy, legal, economic and other instruments; and (f) an increase in the cooperation of non-governmental organizations and other relevant actors of civil society working effectively with UNEP as partners.

Subprogramme 3
Policy implementation

Objective

10.14 The objective is to improve environmental management capabilities and enhance government capacity to implement environmental policy.

Strategy

10.15 The responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in the Division of Environmental Policy Implementation. The strategy will include: (a) the assessment of global, regional, subregional and country needs and the determination of appropriate options for policy implementation; (b) the selection and design, in collaboration with partners, of specific pilot projects and initiatives with potential demonstrative value as success stories or best practices with a view to their implementation; (c) collaboration with other subprogrammes in the identification and design of appropriate technical cooperation activities; (d) the provision of assistance to Governments in implementing the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities; (e) the provision of assistance to Governments in strengthening their capacity to comply with the relevant multilateral environmental agreements to which they are party; and (f) the enhancement of emergency response networks in collaboration with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs; the provision of assistance to Governments in building emergency response capacity, in responding to specific emergencies, in evaluating national and subregional capacity for emergency response and in identifying national and subregional needs; and provision of organized technical and other services for capacity-building in the field of emergency response.

Expected accomplishments

10.16 Expected accomplishments would include: (a) the improvement of the knowledge base, expertise and management tools of governmental and other relevant institutions to better equip them to implement environmental policy; (b) the development of innovative arrangements for technical cooperation in the utilization of environmentally sound and appropriate technologies and their initial implementation; (c) the implementation by Governments of institutional arrangements for providing improved responsiveness to environmental emergencies through which required resources are better mobilized, international actions are efficiently coordinated and measures to mitigate emergency situations are effectively implemented; (d) the undertaking of national and international measures to implement the agreements expected to emanate from the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities and the global conference held in 2000; and (e) the enhancement of arrangements for the enforcement of and compliance with relevant multilateral environmental agreements.

Indicators of achievement

10.17 Indicators of achievement would include: (a) feedback from Governments and other relevant institutions to which assistance was provided through, inter alia, training workshops, training of experts or provision of management tools, guidelines and information materials; (b) satisfaction on the part of Governments and other bodies concerned regarding institutional arrangements put in place for facilitating improved responsiveness to environmental emergencies and the number of institutional arrangements developed and advisory services provided for such purpose; and (c) the number of requests received for advisory services on the implementation of agreements under the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities and the 2000 conference.

Subprogramme 4
Technology, industry and economics

Objective

10.18 The objective is to increase the capacity of decision makers in Government and industry, as well as local authorities, to develop and adopt policies, strategies and practices that are cleaner and safer, make efficient use of natural resources, ensure safe management of chemicals and incorporate environmental costs so as to reduce pollution and risks for human beings and the environment.

Strategy

10.19 Substantive responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in the Division of Technology, Industry and Economics. The subprogramme will promote the development, use and transfer on favourable terms of environmental policies and related environmentally sound technologies, of economic instruments and of managerial practices and other tools that will assist in ensuring environmentally sound decision-making and in building corresponding capacities.

10.20 More specifically, the strategy will include: (a) promoting the understanding and knowledge of environmental issues related to industrial and urban development, trade and the economy, sustainable consumption patterns, use of natural resources (particularly energy and water) and chemicals, as well as alternative projects; (b) building capacity through a participatory "learn-by-doing" approach to addressing countries' economic, environmental and social needs according to national and regional development priorities; (c) developing consensus on policies and tools needed to respond to the problems identified, such as the new Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade and the future legally binding international instrument on persistent organic pollutants, codes of practice, economic instruments and so on; (d) through information exchange, technology transfer on favourable terms and capacity-building, providing technical support to the chemicals agenda and facilitating the effective and integrated implementation of multilateral environmental agreements, with a particular focus on the UNEP-administered conventions, the Rotterdam Convention (jointly with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations) and the future persistent organic pollutants convention; (e) facilitating the widespread transfer on favourable terms, adoption and use of technology in urban areas, freshwater basins and industry sectors in developing countries and countries with economies in transition; (f) assisting countries and industries in the production of cleaner and safer methods of production and the development of more sustainable products and services; (g) promoting practical and cost-effective approaches to the assessment of trade policies and to the implementation of environmentally sustainable trade policies; (h) demonstrating, in association with other partners active at the local level, the effectiveness of policies and tools suggested, while involving national experts in the formulation and implementation of UNEP-sponsored projects; and (i) making full use of the complementarity between the work of UNEP and the activities carried out by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the World Trade Organization (WTO) in the field of trade and environment, aiming at strengthening coherence in the rules and implementation of multilateral environmental agreements and the WTO agreements.

Expected accomplishments

10.21 Expected accomplishments would include: (a) greater worldwide use of technologies, products and services that are cleaner and safer; (b) more efficient use of energy and water; (c) reduced pollution and risks for human beings and their environments; (d) identification of means of minimizing the adverse environmental impacts of economic policy, especially trade liberalization and investment policies; (e) identification of win-win situations to balance concurrent economic and environmental gains; and (f) adherence to the goals of the International Declaration on Cleaner Production.

Indicators of achievement

10.22 The indicators of achievement would include: (a) the number of countries, organizations and industries adopting policies, regulations or codes that require cleaner and safer production practices, products and services; (b) the number of cases in which renewable energy technologies are introduced and used in developing countries; (c) the use by industry of energy audits as a component of overall cleaner production/environmental management systems approaches; (d) the number of countries and industries commencing or strengthening programmes on awareness of and preparedness for emergencies at the local level or the equivalent and the number of companies adopting environmental management systems; (e) the number of environmentally responsible investment patterns employed by the private sector and the development and use of environmental procedures and practices; (f) the number of partnership agreements developed and concluded with sectoral role players, accompanied by the expression by partners of confidence in UNEP or satisfaction in UNEP services; and (g) the number of signatures to the International Declaration on Cleaner Production.

Subprogramme 5

Regional cooperation and representation

Objective

10.23 The objective is to ensure that regional concerns, priorities and perspectives are taken fully into account in the development of UNEP policies from the programme planning stage to the implementation stage and that decisions of the UNEP Governing Council are effectively implemented in the regions.

Strategy

10.24 Substantive responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in the Division of Regional Cooperation and Representation. The strategy will address the unique circumstances of the respective regions and include the following: (a) development of regional perspectives and positions on major environmental issues and trends and contribution to the formulation of response strategies; (b) provision of UNEP headquarters with assessments of environmental trends and conditions at the regional and national levels and the nature and scope of government policy and programmatic responses at the national and regional levels; (c) promotion of activities that disseminate new concepts and approaches for dealing with specific environmental problems in and between regions; (d) promotion of intergovernmental dialogue on environmental issues at the regional level; and (e) promotion of and support for subregional and regional cooperation programmes on the environment and provision of assistance to Governments at their request.

Expected accomplishments

10.25 Expected accomplishments would include: (a) having successfully addressed major environmental issues of crucial importance in the economic development of the countries in question; (b) more effective regional policy responses to global and regional environmental issues; (c) increased transfer and application of best practices in one region to other regions; and (d) increased capacity in the legal, policy and institutional areas to address emerging environmental concerns and issues at the national and regional levels.

Indicators of achievement

10.26 Indicators of achievement would include: (a) the number of active forums and associated bodies dealing with regional environmental issues and setting regional priorities; (b) actions taken by regional forums to implement UNEP priorities at the regional level and the extent of UNEP contributions to the implementation of the priorities adopted by the regional forums; (c) the adoption of new operative agreements with subregional and regional partners and agencies participating in regional programmes; and (d) the expression of confidence in UNEP services in the regions by the Committee of Permanent Representatives, the Governing Council and/or the regional forums.

Subprogramme 6

Environmental conventions

Objective

10.27 The objective of the subprogramme is to enhance linkages and coordination within and among environmental and environment-related conventions (with full respect for the status of the respective convention secretariats and the autonomous decision-making prerogatives of the conferences of the parties to the conventions concerned in order to facilitate the implementation by the Governments of their commitments under the conventions) and to strengthen the capacity of Governments to implement the conventions to which they are party.

Strategy

10.28 Substantive responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in the Division of Environmental Conventions. The strategy will include: (a) improving the collaboration between UNEP and the secretariats of the conventions and related international agreements and processes through consultative processes at the policy, scientific and programmatic levels; developing joint thematic programming proposals in the areas of common interest and, subject to the approval of the respective governing bodies of such proposals, undertaking joint thematic programming exercises; and supporting the implementation of the jointly identified components of the work programmes of the conventions and related international agreements and processes, which are complementary to the programme of work of UNEP; (b) organizing consultations with the secretariats of the conventions and related international agreements and processes, other United Nations bodies, relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and civil society in order to explore possibilities for collaborative actions to reinforce the implementation of the components of the work programmes of multilateral environmental conventions and related international agreements and processes; (c) assisting Governments and the secretariats of conventions and related international agreements and processes in conformity with decisions of the respective governing bodies and assisting Governments in implementing commitments undertaken in multilateral environmental agreements, through capacity-building and other relevant activities; (d) coordinating within UNEP the planning, implementation and monitoring of the projects developed to follow up on the decisions of the governing bodies of relevant multilateral environmental conventions and related international agreements and processes; (e) improving access to and dissemination of information on relevant multilateral obligations required under international instruments to which they are party.

Expected accomplishments

10.29 Expected accomplishments would include: (a) enhanced coordination and greater cost-effectiveness in the implementation of the UNEP-administered environment-related conventions; and (b) enhanced ability of Governments to meet their obligations under the conventions.

Indicators of achievement

10.30 Indicators of achievement would include: (a) new or expanded arrangements and/or modalities of coordination between UNEP and the secretariats of the conventions administered by UNEP in the areas of common interest; and (b) the number of countries receiving assistance from UNEP and the number of areas covered by such assistance.

Subprogramme 7
Communications and public information

Objective

10.31 The objectives of this subprogramme are to increase awareness of environmental issues and the UNEP programme of work, to strengthen cooperation among all sectors of society and actors involved in the formulation and implementation of the international environmental agenda and to strengthen partnerships with Governments, the media and other concerned parties in order to enhance access to environmental information.

Strategy

10.32 Substantive responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in the Communications and Public Information Branch. This subprogramme will promote the participation of people in environmental management by sharing information on and increasing understanding of environmental issues. The subprogramme will generate public information materials and increase awareness through the media

Internet and multimedia technologies, audio-visual products, programmes for children and youth, environmental and sporting activities, library services and public enquiries. The subprogramme will have a strong bearing on programme-wide activities by instilling a culture of communications in all programme divisions and in the regional and outposted offices in close cooperation with United Nations agencies, Governments, non-governmental organizations and the private sector.

Expected accomplishments

10.33 Expected accomplishments would include: (a) heightened environmental awareness among Governments, civil society, youth, learning institutions and the public leading to new environmental actions and initiatives at all levels of society; (b) increased exchange of information and closer cooperation with the global media, which are instrumental in influencing public perceptions and actions; and (c) increased royalties and sales revenues from publications.

Indicators of achievement

10.34 Indicators of achievement would include: (a) the number of UNEP web site visits, including visits to the *Our Planet* magazine web site; (b) the number of public information and technical enquiries; (c) the extent of media coverage of UNEP programme activities, special events, such as World Environment Day, the Clean-Up the World campaign, the Global 500 awards, the Sasakawa Environment Prize and the international photographic competition, programmes for children and youth, environment and sporting activities and so on; (d) the degree of feedback from the public in the form of press clippings, viewership and multimedia coverage and enquiries; and (e) wider distribution and better marketing of UNEP publications.

Legislative mandates

Programme 10
Environment

General Assembly resolutions

47/190	Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development
S-19/2	Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21
53/242	Report of the Secretary-General on environment and human settlements
54/216	Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme
54/217	Enhancing complementarities among international instruments related to environment and sustainable development (subprogrammes 2, 3 and 6)
54/218	Implementation of and follow-up to the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly
54/225	Promoting an integrated management approach to the Caribbean Sea area in the context of sustainable development (subprogrammes 3 and 6)

Governing Council decisions

19/1	Nairobi Declaration on the Role and Mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme
SS.V/2	Revitalization, reform and strengthening of the United Nations Environment Programme
20/3	Programme for the development and periodic review of environmental law beyond the year 2000 (subprogrammes 2 and 3)
20/4	Promotion of access to information, public participation in decision-making and access to justice in environmental matters (subprogrammes 2 and 3)
20/17	Views of the Governing Council on the report of the Secretary-General on environment and human settlements
20/19	Contribution of the United Nations Environment Programme to the Commission on Sustainable Development at its seventh session (subprogrammes 2-4 and 10.6)
20/22	Outcome of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade (subprogrammes 2, 4 and 6)

20/24	International action to protect health and the environment through measures which will reduce and/or eliminate emissions and discharges of persistent organic pollutants, including the development of an international legally binding instrument (subprogrammes 2 and 4)
20/25	Freshwater (subprogrammes 2 and 3)
20/27	Support to Africa (subprogrammes 1-6)
20/28	Promoting interlinkages among global environmental issues and human needs (subprogrammes 1-3 and 6)

Subprogramme 1
Environmental assessment and early warning

General Assembly resolutions

53/242	Report of the Secretary-General on environment and human settlements
54/66	Effects of atomic radiation

Governing Council decisions

19/1	Nairobi Declaration on the Role and Mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme
SS.V/2	Revitalization, reform and strengthening of the United Nations Environment Programme
20/1	Global Environment Outlook
20/5	Reform of INFOTERRA to ensure better public access to environmental information

Subprogramme 2
Policy development and law

General Assembly resolution

54/31	Oceans and the law of the sea

Governing Council decisions

20/6	Policy and advisory services of the United Nations Environment Programme in key areas of institution-building
20/12	Implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development within the United Nations system
20/33	Stable, adequate and predictable funding for the United Nations Environment Programme

Subprogramme 3
Policy implementation

General Assembly resolutions

51/189	Institutional arrangements for the implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities
54/224	Implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

Governing Council decision

20/8	Further improvement of the international response to environmental emergencies

Subprogramme 4
Technology, industry and economics

Governing Council decisions

19/13 B	Chemicals management: further measures to reduce the risks from a limited number of hazardous chemicals
19/13 C	Chemicals management: international action to protect human health and the environment through measures which will reduce and/or eliminate emissions and discharges of persistent organic pollutants, including the development of an international legally binding instrument
20/23	Chemicals management
20/29	Policy and advisory services of the United Nations Environment Programme in the key areas of economics, trade and financial services

Subprogramme 5
Regional cooperation and representation

Governing Council decision

20/39	Functioning of the regional offices and proposed measures for the strengthening of regionalization and decentralization

Subprogramme 6
Environmental conventions

General Assembly resolutions

54/221	Convention on Biological Diversity
54/222	Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind

Governing Council decisions

20/10	Land degradation: support for the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa
20/18	Environmental conventions
20/26	Biosafety

Programme 11
Human settlements

Overall orientation

11.1 The overall purpose of the programme is to improve the living and working environment for all through more effective, participatory and transparent management and development of human settlements, within the overall objective of reducing urban poverty and social exclusion. The goals of the Habitat Agenda are adequate shelter for all and the development of sustainable human settlements in an urbanizing world. The mandate of the programme is derived from the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), in particular the Habitat Agenda, and General Assembly resolutions 32/162, by which the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) was established, and 43/181, by which the Assembly adopted the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000. The mandate also derives from the decisions of the relevant legislative bodies regarding Agenda 21 (chaps. 7, 21 and 28). The main mandate is provided by the Global Plan of Action of the Habitat Agenda and by relevant resolutions of the General Assembly (most recently resolutions 53/242 and 54/209) and of the Commission on Human Settlements at its seventeenth session. The programme is under the intergovernmental guidance of the Commission on Human Settlements, which reports to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council.

11.2 The strategy of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) will be organized around two subprogrammes corresponding to the two main themes of the Habitat II Conference and the Habitat Agenda: "Adequate Shelter for All" and "Sustainable Urban Development". Each subprogramme will initially be spearheaded by a global campaign, the Campaign for Secure Tenure and the Campaign on Urban Governance respectively, which will combine normative and operational activities. Policy advice, capacity-building, legislative action, advocacy, and public awareness-building will be the main work methods. Through technical cooperation, the Centre will support developing countries in achieving the goals of adequate shelter for all and the development of sustainable human settlements, will evaluate, promote and monitor the implementation of the Global Plan of Action and will undertake the preparations for the special session of the General Assembly for the five-year review of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II).

11.3 Within the Secretariat, the overall responsibility for the programme is vested in the Centre. It will serve as the focal point for the implementation of the programme within the United Nations system and will work in coordination with the programmes of, among others, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Economic Commission for Africa, the Economic Commission for Europe, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Environment Programme, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Health Organization, the World Bank and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization.

Subprogramme 1
Adequate shelter for all

11.4 Shelter conditions for the world's urban poor have continued to deteriorate, compounding a cycle of poverty and marginalization. Central to resolving the shelter challenge is replacing policies based on social and physical exclusion with the benefits of formally acknowledging the right of the poor to an adequate standard of living, which includes housing. The benefits to both the recipients and the surrounding communities will demonstrate the sustainability of this approach.

Objective

11.5 The overall objective of the subprogramme is to support Governments and other partners of the Centre to improve the shelter conditions of the world's urban poor, particularly in developing countries.

Strategy

11.6 The responsibility for the subprogramme is vested in the Shelter Branch. The subprogramme's strategy will be to support the mobilization of finance and credit, better shelter delivery mechanisms, improved provision of urban infrastructure and effective monitoring of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda. A particular feature of the strategy will be a focus on the role of women as active participants, at the national and local levels, in the efforts to improve their shelter conditions and those of their families. Other elements of the strategy will be as follows:

(a) To promote policies, enabling strategies and delivery systems for housing and social services that are responsive to the need for adequate shelter and security of tenure;

(b) To strengthen the capacity at national and local levels to contribute to shelter delivery in poor urban and rural settlements;

(c) To support developing countries through technical cooperation in achieving the goals of adequate shelter for all and the development of sustainable human settlements.

Expected accomplishments

11.7 Expected accomplishments would include:

(a) Improved tenurial rights;

(b) Larger volumes of finance and credit for the development of low-income human settlements, especially for the housing sector, and access to those funds by a larger number of low-income populations;

(c) Higher quality and more reliable urban infrastructure, especially clean water, sanitation, community health systems, waste management and transport for larger numbers of people.

Indicators of achievement

11.8 Indicators would include:

(a) The number of countries adopting national legislation for the granting and protection of tenure, recognizing women's tenurial rights, including inheritance rights, introducing policies and procedures for more open and affordable land markets, and introducing measures and policies to reduce forced evictions;

(b) The number of countries establishing effective non-traditional financing arrangements, adopting measures to improve access to credit in the housing sector, including an enhanced role for women, and making available non-mortgage forms of housing credit;

(c) The number of effective and sustainable shelter delivery systems established, and an increase in the utilization of energy-efficient construction materials and methods;

(d) The number of urban poor communities having access to potable water, slum-upgrading programmes established, and equitable pricing policies for basic and essential services formulated and implemented.

Subprogramme 2
Sustainable human settlements development

11.9 The world is rapidly urbanizing and cities are increasingly becoming both the loci and the engines of economic and social development. Improved urban governance (more effective and sustainable development and management of cities) leads to more effective and efficient responses to urban problems, particularly urban poverty and social exclusion.

Objective

11.10 The objective of the subprogramme is to support Governments and other partners of the Centre in the adoption of socially integrated, inclusive, accessible, transparent, participatory and accountable urban governance and management, at the national and local levels, with a view to ensuring sustainable urban development.

Strategy

11.11 The responsibility for the subprogramme is vested in the Urban Development Branch. The strategy for achieving these objectives will combine the Global Campaign on Urban Governance, applied research, training, organizational capacity-building and operational activities. The Campaign will serve as an entry point into the rest of the subprogramme, and will link operational and normative activities at all levels and establish norms of good urban governance at the global level. Another element of the strategy is to promote the decision-making policies on the management of human settlements through local government, as appropriate.

Expected accomplishments

11.12 Expected accomplishments would include:

(a) Improved urban governance through participatory city consultations, crime prevention strategies and local leadership capacity-building;

(b) Strengthened knowledge and understanding of urban economics and the interplay between economic, social and legal/regulatory factors that influence and shape urban development and the synergies between urban and rural settlements;

(c) Increased level of preparedness for disaster prevention and response in cities, with special emphasis on community involvement.

Indicators of achievement

11.13 Indicators would include:

(a) Wider participation of citizens, including increased participation by women, in urban management; increased effectiveness, efficiency and transparency in city decision-making, including increased leadership roles for local authorities; and improved accountability for public resources by city managers (verified through feedback from stakeholders and partners via meetings, workshops and reports, and evaluation of specific programmes and/or projects);

(b) Municipal-level mechanisms developed to support local economic development, including improvement of municipal finances, investment, urban employment and income generation; and improvement in the implementation and effectiveness of legislative instruments that guide the planning, development and management of cities (verified through reports and feedback from studies, seminars and expert group meetings, and evaluation of selected programmes and/or projects);

(c) National legislation enacted to facilitate sustainable urban development; the development of urban environmental tools for sharing information and expertise among partners; and operational partnerships established by local governments and their institutions with communities and the private sector in environmental planning and management;

(d) The number of cities that received assistance from the Centre and that responded in a timely and efficient way to any disasters that may have occurred.

Legislative mandates

Programme 11
Human settlements

General Assembly resolutions

53/180	Special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda
53/242	Report of the Secretary-General on environment and human settlements
54/207	Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda
54/208	Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)
54/209	Follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)
54/232	Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty

Commission on Human Settlements resolutions

16/22	Cooperation in the eradication of poverty
17/1	Follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)
17/7	Revitalization of the Habitat Centre
17/17	International cooperation for the implementation of the Habitat Agenda
17/20	Work programme and budget of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) for the biennium 2000-2001
17/22	Cooperation between the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and the United Nations Environment Programme

Subprogramme 1
Adequate shelter for all

Commission on Human Settlements resolutions

16/7	The realization of the human right to adequate housing
16/15	Contribution of the private and non-governmental sectors to the delivery of shelter to low-income groups

Subprogramme 2
Sustainable human settlements development

Commission on Human Settlements resolutions

16/3	Disaster mitigation
17/10	The rural dimension of sustainable urban development

Programme 12
Crime prevention and criminal justice

Overall orientation

Objective

12.1 The overall objective of the programme is to strengthen international cooperation and assistance provided to Governments in tackling crime problems, such as those posed by transnational organized crime, trafficking in persons, economic and financial crime, including money-laundering, corruption, illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms and terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, as well as to promote fair and efficient criminal justice systems. The mandate of the programme is provided in resolutions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, as well as the recommendations emanating from the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders.

12.2 Substantive responsibility for the implementation of the programme is vested in the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention. The Centre reports to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, a functional commission of the Economic and Social Council, and to the General Assembly.

Strategy

12.3 The strategy for achieving the objectives of the programme will include the following main elements:

(a) Promoting and implementing the outcome of the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, the decisions of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the relevant decisions of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly;

(b) Promoting international cooperation and action in dealing with major challenges of global crime, especially transnational organized crime, trafficking in persons, economic and financial crime, including money-laundering, corruption and illicit trafficking in firearms;

(c) Promoting the rule of law, fair and efficient criminal justice systems, effective crime prevention, prison reform, the independence of judicial and prosecutorial authorities, the juvenile justice system and restorative justice approaches, in particular to assist Governments in protecting vulnerable adolescent groups from being recruited by organized criminals;

(d) Supporting Governments in their efforts to deal with crime and justice matters, with the focus on global criminal threats, through the provision of advisory services and other forms of technical cooperation to Governments, at their request;

(e) Assisting Governments in their national and multilateral efforts to respond to changing crime trends, as well as to create the necessary instruments and institutions for a more accountable, transparent and effective crime prevention and control system; and disseminating expertise in the effective and humane handling of offences, offenders and victims;

(f) Contributing to the prevention of international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations by addressing its criminal aspects;

(g) Supporting the development of a global policy on crime prevention and criminal justice matters;

(h) Continuing to develop, in consultation with Member States, an effective global programme for technical cooperation to assist in fighting corruption;

(i) Supporting Governments in addressing the root causes of crimes;

(j) Emphasizing and enhancing the prevention and rehabilitation programme;

(k) Urging increased donor cooperation.

12.4 The strategy will focus on the twin pillars of international cooperation and the provision of assistance for national efforts. It will also foster a culture based on integrity and respect for law and strengthen the active participation of civil society in preventing and combating crime and corruption. It will devote special attention to gender mainstreaming in all relevant aspects of work. Continued attention will be given to increasing the operational capacity of the programme, to achieving greater synergy of action with other relevant actors and to mobilizing resources.

12.5 As part of the multifaceted measures to implement the strategy, the programme will assist Governments to implement the United Nations convention against transnational organized crime currently being drafted and the protocols thereto. In addition, it will assist in the development of new international legal instruments to combat corruption. It will address in a consolidated manner the creation and dissemination of scientific knowledge, the acquisition and compilation of expertise and the provision of technical cooperation to Governments upon request. A particular focus of technical cooperation will be on strengthening the human and institutional capacities of Member States, including providing training opportunities for criminal justice personnel in synergy with the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network institutes.

12.6 The programme will promote and facilitate the application and use of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice as the cornerstones of humane and effective criminal justice systems, which are the basic requisites for fighting crime at the international level. Emerging trends in crime and justice, especially in the priority areas, would be analysed, databases developed, global surveys issued and information gathered and disseminated. In addition, country-specific needs assessments would be undertaken.

Expected accomplishments

12.7 Expected accomplishments would include:

(a) The adoption and entry into force, with the assistance of the Centre at the request of Governments, of the United Nations convention against transnational organized crime and the protocols thereto;

(b) The expansion of global knowledge of and expertise to deal with crime problems such as those posed by transnational organized crime, trafficking in persons, economic and financial crime, including money-laundering, corruption, illicit manufacturing and trafficking in firearms and terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, as well as to promote fair and efficient criminal justice systems;

(c) The enhanced capacity of Member States to respond at the national, regional and international levels to crime problems such as those posed by transnational organized crime, trafficking in persons, economic and financial crime, including money-laundering, corruption, illicit manufacturing and trafficking in firearms, and terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, as well as to promote fair and efficient criminal justice systems.

Indicators of achievement

12.8 Indicators of achievements would include:

(a) The number of Member States requesting and receiving assistance in signing or ratifying the United Nations convention against transnational organized crime and the protocols thereto;

(b) Best practices and information disseminated, research undertaken and new techniques developed and shared among Member States to respond to crime problems as well as to promote fair and efficient criminal justice systems;

(c) The number of countries requesting and receiving technical assistance, as well as the development of plans to enhance the capacity of Member States to respond at the national, regional and international levels in order to respond to crime problems as well as to promote fair and efficient criminal justice systems;

(d) The quality and accessibility of databases maintained by the Centre;

(e) Improved technical assistance in addressing crime problems and an increase in the number of trained criminal justice personnel.

Legislative mandates

Programme 12
Crime prevention and criminal justice

General Assembly resolutions

46/152	Creation of an effective United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme
50/145	Ninth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders
51/60	United Nations Declaration on Crime and Public Security
51/191	United Nations Declaration against Corruption and Bribery in International Commercial Transactions
52/86	Crime prevention and criminal justice measures to eliminate violence against women
53/111	Transnational organized crime
53/112	Mutual assistance and international cooperation in criminal matters
54/110	Measures to eliminate international terrorism
54/125	Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders
54/126	Draft United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the draft protocols thereto
54/127	Activities of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of a Convention against Transnational Organized Crime: illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, as well as consideration of the need to develop an instrument on the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in explosives
54/128	Action against corruption
54/129	High-level Political Signing Conference for the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime
54/130	African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

Security Council resolution

1269 (1999)

Economic and Social Council resolutions

1992/1	Establishment of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

1997/27	Strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme with regard to the development of crime statistics and the operations of criminal justice systems
1998/21	United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice
1999/23	Work of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme
1999/24	Action to promote cooperation and the functioning of the clearing house on international projects in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice
1999/25	Effective crime prevention
1999/26	Development and implementation of mediation and restorative justice measures in criminal justice
1999/27	Penal reform
1999/28	Administration of juvenile justice

Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolutions

1/1	Strategic management by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme
4/1	Succession of States in respect of international treaties on combating various manifestations of crime

Programme 13
International drug control

Overall orientation

13.1 The overall objective of the programme is the reduction of drug production, trafficking, consumption and related crime through concerted international action. The mandate of the programme is derived from the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol, the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971, the Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline of Future Activities in Drug Abuse Control and the Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988. General Assembly resolutions S-17/2, S-20/2, S-20/3 and S-20/4 reinforce and update the mandates. In addition, relevant resolutions of the Economic and Social Council and Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolutions 42/4 and 42/11 on the follow-up to the decisions and resolutions adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session also guide the work of the programme.

13.2 The General Assembly, at its twentieth special session, in 1998, adopted the Political Declaration which specified the year 2003 as a target for the establishment or strengthening of national drug control legislation and programmes related to measures adopted at the special session. It also designated the year 2008 as a target for achieving significant results in the field of demand reduction and for eliminating or significantly reducing the illicit cultivation of coca, cannabis and opium. At the special session, the Assembly also adopted a Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction; an action plan on amphetamine-type stimulants; an action plan on the eradication of illicit crops and alternative development; a resolution on countering money-laundering; and measures to enhance international cooperation on drug control, precursor control and promotion of judicial cooperation.

13.3 Within the Secretariat, substantive responsibility for the implementation of the programme is vested in the United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP) of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention (ODCCP). The strategies for attaining the above objective are based on the implementation of the activities set out under four complementary subprogrammes, which focus on: (a) coordinating and promoting international drug control action by Governments, the United Nations system and other international organizations; (b) facilitating the work of policy-making bodies dealing with international drug control; and (c) preventing drug abuse and illicit trafficking through both demand reduction and supply reduction. In pursuance of the objective, efforts would be directed towards providing Governments with better information on trends in the international drug problem and techniques and countermeasures to combat it. Capacity-building, the establishment of information networks on drug abuse and the development of knowledge and effective methodologies in tackling drug abuse would also constitute part of the main strategy.

13.4 As the focal point for the coordination of action against drug abuse and illicit trafficking within the United Nations system, UNDCP would facilitate and promote implementation of all efforts at international drug control at the subregional, regional and global levels. In that regard, organizations of the United Nations system and multilateral and bilateral organizations would be encouraged to incorporate into their work issues relating to drug control.

13.5 UNDCP reports to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, a functional commission of the Economic and Social Council. The International Narcotics Control Board (INCB), established by the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961, is responsible for promoting Governments' compliance with the provisions of the drug control treaties and to assist them in this effort. The Board's tasks are laid down in the treaties. The Board reports to the Economic and Social Council through the Commission on Narcotic Drugs.

Subprogramme 1
Coordination and promotion of international drug control

Objective

13.6 The subprogramme aims to promote and ensure the unity of purpose and cohesion of action in drug control by organizations of the United Nations system.

It focuses on mainstreaming, within the inter-agency machinery as well as by the organizations of the system, of issues relating to the causes of drug abuse, production and trafficking in order to facilitate implementation of all the relevant international instruments on drug abuse and drug trafficking.

Strategy

13.7 Substantive responsibility for this subprogramme is shared among the offices under the direct supervision of the Executive Director. The subprogramme seeks to promote and facilitate implementation of the international drug control strategy, embodied in the Global Programme of Action and the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session, in 1998, other international instruments, including decisions and resolutions of the Assembly, the outcome of the two special sessions of the General Assembly contained in resolutions S-17/2, S-20/2, S-20/3 and S-20/4 and the cooperation framework developed by the Subcommittee on Drug Control of the Administrative Committee on Coordination. A comprehensive assessment of the global drug problem will be made for the purpose of expanding knowledge, thereby enhancing the capacity of UNDCP to analyse its impact, forecast the trends and develop countermeasures to propose to Governments.

13.8 Priority will be given to increasing awareness among decision and opinion makers and civil society in general of the magnitude of the challenges posed by the drug abuse problem. To that end, information on the international drug problem will be disseminated through the publication of the annual world drug report, as will information on global illicit drug trends. Integrated databases on drug supply and demand will be maintained and updated. Needs assessments for multilateral cooperation in drug control at the regional and subregional levels will be conducted in order to establish in selected regions cooperation arrangements, including memoranda of understanding, defining a common understanding of and approach to drug control by the countries concerned.

Expected accomplishments

13.9 Expected accomplishments would include:

(a) Improved coordination of drug control related activities throughout the United Nations system with UNDCP providing leadership;

(b) Coordinated programming and implementation of activities relating to drug control by Governments, regional and subregional institutions and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations;

(c) Improved efforts to support Governments in implementing the Global Plan of Action and the outcome of the twentieth special session of the General Assembly, within the agreed time frames, in particular the high-priority practical measures at the international, regional or national level indicated in those documents; provision of assistance to civil society to improve the quality of its activities and projects; and close cooperation with Governments in their efforts to counter the world drug problem;

(d) Progress made towards the adoption and implementation of measures to strengthen national legislation and progress giving effect to the action plan against the illicit manufacture, trafficking and abuse of amphetamine-type stimulants and their precursors; measures to eliminate or reduce significantly the illicit manufacture, marketing and trafficking of other psychotropic substances, including synthetic drugs, and the diversion of precursors; national legislation and programmes to counter money-laundering; and measures to promote and strengthen judicial cooperation;

(e) Better understanding of the magnitude of and trends in the global drug problem;

(f) Timely dissemination of information on various aspects of the drug problem as well as on control measures.

Indicators of achievement

13.10 Indicators of achievement would include:

(a) The completion of needs assessments for multilateral cooperation on drug control;

(b) The number of countries incorporating the strategies and recommendations of the General Assembly at its twentieth special session into national, regional and international drug control-related policies, within the agreed time frames, and an assessment, in close cooperation with Governments, of the quality of civil society activities and the progress of cooperation;

(c) The impact of the publications on the drug control policies of Member States.

Subprogramme 2
International drug control monitoring and policy-making

Objective

13.11 The objective of the subprogramme is to enable the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, its subsidiary bodies and INCB to carry out their functions effectively through the provision of high-quality support.

Strategy

13.12 Substantive responsibility for the implementation of the activities under this subprogramme is vested in the Division for Treaty Affairs and Support to Drug Control Organs of UNDCP. In this connection, substantive and technical services will be provided to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and INCB in order to enable them to discharge their responsibilities under the relevant international instruments and resolutions of the General Assembly. Reliable data and other information on the nature, patterns and trends in the licit and illicit supply of and demand for narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors will be made available to those bodies. Issues relating to treaty compliance would be identified and analysed for use by the Board. Its efforts at establishing, maintaining and strengthening national and international controls over licit supplies of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances in a manner that ensures their adequate availability for medical, scientific and other licit purposes will be strengthened. Furthermore, a special surveillance list of non-scheduled substances will be maintained and methods to detect and analyse them will be developed in order to enable INCB to assist Governments in preventing the diversion of precursors to illicit channels.

13.13 Multilateral, regional and subregional judicial cooperation will be promoted and assistance will be made available with a view to enabling Governments to deal effectively with criminal organizations involved in drug trafficking. Efforts will be made to provide the latest border control equipment for surveillance, intelligence and effective border controls. The subprogramme will also facilitate the adoption and implementation by Governments of national drug control legislation, including mechanisms for preventing the illicit trafficking of precursors and drugs, in particular heroin, cocaine and amphetamine-type stimulants, and money-laundering. Efforts in this area will focus on States traversed by new and existing drug, precursor or money-laundering routes and potential substitute States with weak drug control laws or enforcement capability.

Expected accomplishments

13.14 Expected accomplishments would include:

(a) The provision of effective policy guidance by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as a result of high-quality substantive and technical support;

(b) The availability to INCB of reliable data and other information on the nature, patterns and trends in drug abuse and drug trafficking, including proposals for action;

(c) Higher prosecution and asset forfeiture success rates and reduced court delays for serious drug-related crime casework,

(d) Expanded and improved databases on national drug control legislation;

(e) Strengthened collaboration among Governments in the legal field, including cooperation to suppress illicit drug trafficking by sea;

(f) Accessibility to Member States and the general public of a comprehensive electronic database containing the national drug-related laws, jurisprudence and practices of all drug-significant States;

(g) Prevention of the diversion of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances into illicit traffic through appropriate control measures.

Indicators of achievement

13.15 The indicators of achievement would include:

(a) The timely submission of high-quality reports and other documents to the Commission;

(b) The number of Governments submitting timely and comprehensive data to INCB;

(c) The number of Governments accepting the recommendations of INCB;

(d) A survey of national legislation and infrastructure measuring the extent to which Governments improved their capacity to take action against illicit drug trafficking;

(e) The number of shortcomings in national drug control systems identified and remedied;

(f) The number of diversions of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances into illicit traffic and the quantities involved;

(g) The number of Governments using the limited international special surveillance list of substances.

Subprogramme 3
Demand reduction: prevention and reduction of drug abuse, treatment and rehabilitation of drug victims

Objective

13.16 The objective of the subprogramme is to enhance the capacity of Governments to formulate effective demand reduction policies and strategies against drug abuse.

Strategy

13.17 Substantive responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in the Division for Operations and Analysis of UNDCP. The strategy is based on the analysis and dissemination of information and best practices and the development of techniques and methods aimed at reducing the demand for illicit drugs, in particular among groups most at risk. It will also help to speed the rehabilitation of drug victims and their consequent absorption into the social mainstream. Regional expert epidemiology networks will be established or improved in order to foster the sharing of experience and the development of an enhanced capacity to understand regional drug abuse problems. Action will also be taken to strengthen the effectiveness of Governments in preventing and reducing drug abuse and in rehabilitating victims, in accordance with the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction. Technical cooperation will be utilized to strengthen human and institutional capacities of Governments. UNDCP will assist each Member State in the development of new or enhanced drug demand reduction strategies and programmes by 2003 in accordance with article 17 of the Political Declaration of 1998 and the Global Programme of Action.

13.18 Scientific and technical information on drugs and precursors, as well as research on and analysis of patterns and trends in illicit drug trafficking, will be made available to Governments.

Expected accomplishments

13.19 The expected accomplishments would include:

(a) Progress in meeting goals and targets for reducing the demand for drugs established in the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session and in the Declaration and Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction and its Action Plan;

(b) The emplacement of new or enhanced data collection systems in a fairly large number of countries;

(c) Implementation by Member States of more comprehensive demand reduction strategies, policies and programmes;

(d) Increased use of standardized methodologies and key indicators by Member States for the collection of data on drug abuse;

(e) Enhanced drug abuse treatment programmes, designed on the basis of needs assessment and evaluation, for the rehabilitation of drug victims.

Indicators of achievement

13.20 The indicators of achievement would include:

(a) An increase in the number of Member States adopting new or enhanced demand reduction and rehabilitation plans and strategies incorporating action by public health, social welfare and law enforcement authorities and civil society, in line with the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction and its Action Plan;

(b) An increase in the number of Member States implementing treatment programmes designed on the basis of needs assessment and evaluation and resulting in a decrease in the number of drug abusers;

(c) The number of Member States introducing new or enhanced drug demand reduction strategies and programmes by 2003 in accordance with article 17 of the Political Declaration.

Subprogramme 4
Supply reduction: elimination of illicit crops and suppression of illicit drug trafficking

Objective

13.21 The objective of the subprogramme is:

(a) To strengthen the capacity of Governments to measure the extent, causes and effects of illicit production and, on the basis of that information, to develop effective countermeasures, including alternative development programmes;

(b) To assist and support, upon request, transit States, in particular developing countries in need of such assistance and support, in enhancing their capacity to fight illicit trafficking of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, taking into account national plans and initiatives and emphasizing the importance of bilateral, subregional, regional and international cooperation in combating illicit drug trafficking.

Strategy

13.22 Substantive responsibility for the subprogramme is vested in the Division for Operations and Analysis of UNDCP. The above objective will be attained, inter alia, through the establishment of harmonized survey methodologies for assessing yield and compiling data on the cultivation, including the production in enclosed premises, of the opium poppy, the cannabis plant and the coca bush and the production of opium, synthetic drugs and coca. As part of the strategy, globally changing patterns of drug abuse will be monitored, production and trafficking trends will be analysed and the relative positions of botanical and synthetic drugs will be assessed. New scientific and technical dimensions of drug abuse and production will be investigated and the results disseminated to Member States and the general public. Advocacy activities will be carried out in support of target countries, and cooperation in the field of drug impurity characterization will be promoted at the local, regional and international levels in order to enable those countries to embark on profiling activities that enhance operational intelligence-gathering on trends in drug and precursor trafficking. In addition, technical assistance will be provided to target countries to facilitate the formulation of drug control components in national policies and alternative development programmes. UNDCP would assist Member States to establish or strengthen national legislation and programmes giving effect to the Action Plan against Illicit Manufacture, Trafficking and Abuse of Amphetamine-type Stimulants and Their Precursors by the year 2003 in accordance with articles 13, 15 and 16 of the Political Declaration.

13.23 The capacity of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to provide policy guidance as regards the goal of reducing the supply of illicit drugs will be enhanced through the production of high-quality annual reports on trafficking and global illicit drug trends. Biannual seizure reports will be prepared with the data made available by the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol) and the Customs Cooperation Council (also known as the World Customs Organization). The efforts of Member States to give effect to the provisions of the 1988 Convention aimed at preventing financial systems from being used to launder illicit proceeds will be supported. Innovative approaches will be developed and tailored to local conditions in order to eliminate the illicit cultivation of drugs and their trafficking. Guidelines and technical papers will be made available and training will be provided on the design, planning and implementation of alternative development and law enforcement programmes. Assistance will be provided to certain countries to establish national crop-monitoring units that monitor areas under cultivation, assess yields and mount rapid assessments in new cultivation areas and cultivation modalities. Assistance will be provided to Governments, upon their request, in formulating drug control components of national policies and alternative development programmes.

13.24 Governments will be supported in increasing the effectiveness of national action against illicit drug trafficking. To that end, Governments will be assisted in enhancing judicial cooperation in order to deal with criminal organizations involved in drug offences and related criminal activities and to apprehend international drug traffickers through the promotion of multilateral, regional and subregional judicial cooperation initiatives and the provision of advice, assistance and training. They will also be assisted in adopting and implementing national drug control legislation in an effective manner, preventing and detecting illicit trafficking of precursors and drugs, in particular heroin, cocaine and amphetamine-type stimulants, and detecting and preventing money-laundering. National drug analysis and pharmaceutical control laboratories will be strengthened and provided with the required technical and scientific information. Collaboration among law enforcement training providers will be improved at the national and international levels.

Expected accomplishments

13.25 Expected accomplishments would include:

(a) Progress made in meeting goals and targets established in the Political Declaration of the twentieth special session of the General Assembly and the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development;

(b) The increased availability to Member States, national and international organizations and other institutions of reliable and timely guidance, data, information and analyses relating to the supply reduction aspects of the illicit drug phenomenon, including alternative development, and of countermeasures and strategies for their application;

(c) Acceptance and integration into development plans and international strategies of innovative approaches and best practices advocated by UNDCP on law enforcement and alternative development;

(d) An increase in regional and international cooperation between Member States in the field of supply reduction;

(e) A determination of efforts to control precursors and to eliminate or significantly reduce the illicit cultivation of the coca bush, the cannabis plant and the opium poppy by 2008 in accordance with articles 14 and 19 of the Political Declaration.

Indicators of achievement

13.26 Indicators of achievement would include:

(a) The number of Member States establishing or strengthening national legislation and programmes giving effect to the Action Plan against Illegal Manufacture, Trafficking and Abuse of Amphetamine-type Stimulants and Their Precursors by 2003 in accordance with articles 13, 15 and 16 of the Political Declaration;

(b) The number of technical materials, such as manuals, brochures and data, disseminated to competent national authorities, international organizations and other institutions;

(c) A listing of the countries that had established mechanisms to monitor illicit crop production, including production in enclosed premises, and trafficking;

(d) The number of countries incorporating the strategies and recommendations of the General Assembly at its twentieth special session into national and international drug control policies;

(e) An increase in the number of Member States designing and implementing more effective policies in order to eliminate or reduce significantly the illicit cultivation, including in enclosed premises, of the coca bush, the cannabis plant and the opium poppy;

(f) An increase in the number of transit States reporting successful drug control actions in terms of regional cooperation, interdiction, arrests and seizures;

(g) An increase in the number of countries and regional organizations actively cooperating against the illicit cultivation and trafficking of illicit drugs.

Legislative mandates

Programme 13
International drug control

Conventions and conference declaration

Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol

Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971

United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988

Declaration and Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline of Future Activities in Drug Abuse Control, adopted by the International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, held from 17 to 26 June 1987

General Assembly resolutions

47/97	Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances
S-20/2	Political Declaration
S-20/3	Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction
S-20/4	Measures to enhance international cooperation to counter the world drug problem
54/132	International cooperation against the world drug problem (applies to subprogrammes 1 and 2)

Subprogramme 1
Coordination and promotion of international drug control

General Assembly resolution

54/132	International cooperation against the world drug problem

Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolutions

2 (XXXIX)	Promoting projects and programmes that use involvement in sports as an effective measure to prevent drug abuse
5 (XXXIX)	Encouragement of each Member State to require the establishment by banks and other financial institutions of customer identification policies and to broaden anti-money-laundering measures, and of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to strengthen cooperation with the Financial Action Task Force

Subprogramme 2
International drug control monitoring and policy-making

General Assembly resolution

54/132	International cooperation against the world drug problem

Economic and Social Council resolutions

1993/38	Measures to prevent substances listed in Schedules III and IV of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971 from being diverted from international trade into illicit channels
1994/4	Encouraging States to detect the use of trade channels for illicit consignments at all stages of movement and promoting the use of advice and technical expertise provided by the Customs Cooperation Council and the United Nations International Drug Control Programme
1995/18	Promoting the use of memoranda of understanding to facilitate cooperation between customs authorities and other competent administrations and the international trading community, including commercial carriers

Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolutions

42/4	Guidelines for reporting by Governments on the implementation of the Global Programme of Action and on the progress achieved in meeting the goals and targets for the years 2003 and 2008, as set out in the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session
42/11	Guidelines for reporting on the follow-up to the twentieth special session of the General Assembly

Subprogramme 3
Demand reduction: prevention and reduction of drug abuse, treatment and rehabilitation of drug victims

General Assembly resolutions

S-20/3	Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction
S-20/4	Measures to enhance international cooperation to counter the world drug problem

Subprogramme 4
Supply reduction: elimination of illicit crops and suppression of illicit drug trafficking

General Assembly resolutions

S-20/2	Political Declaration
S-20/4	Measures to enhance international cooperation to counter the world drug problem

Economic and Social Council resolution

1993/36	Frequency of and arrangements for meetings of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Europe

Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolutions

5 (XXXVIII)	Strategies for illicit supply reduction
12 (XXXVIII)	Scientific and technical cooperation in the control of drug abuse and illicit trafficking

Programme 14
Economic and social development in Africa

Overall orientation

14.1 The main objective of development in Africa is the reduction of poverty, an objective that was reaffirmed in Copenhagen in 1995 at the World Summit for Social Development, which set a target of reducing poverty by half by 2015. For Africa to achieve this goal, a minimum real growth rate of 7 per cent per annum in gross domestic product is required, as well as balanced policies to address specific issues, such as income distribution and labour-absorbing methods of production, bearing in mind the multidimensional nature of poverty.

14.2 While many African economies have been growing since the mid-1990s, compared with the stagnation of the previous decade, that rate is insufficient to attain the poverty reduction goals of the Social Summit. The key challenges for policy makers, therefore, are to consolidate economic reforms and to accelerate and sustain economic growth. This programme, which will be implemented by the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), has the overall objective of helping African countries to meet those challenges, that is, to deepen economic and social reforms and accelerate and sustain development.

14.3 The mandate for the programme derives from Economic and Social Council resolution 671 A (XXV) of 29 April 1958, which established the Economic Commission for Africa. This mandate has been further elaborated in a number of General Assembly and Economic and Social Council resolutions, as well as in Commission resolutions 718 (XXVI) 726 (XXVII), 779 (XXIX) and 809 (XXXI).

14.4 The overall strategy of ECA will be organized around eight interdependent and complementary subprogrammes, which are designed:

(a) To create a better environment for higher levels of and better targeted investment in the social sectors;

(b) To mainstream and integrate population, environmental, scientific and technological and agricultural concerns into national development planning and poverty reduction frameworks and policies;

(c) To enhance Africa's international competitiveness in trade and finance;

(d) To promote regional cooperation and integration as a step towards integration into the global economy;

(e) To promote good governance;

(f) To develop and strengthen Africa's capacity to tap into the global system of information and knowledge and adapt it to solve its development problems;

(g) To promote gender equality;

(h) To work towards complementing and enhancing the work of other organizations.

14.5 This programme structure is based on and reflects the priorities in the new Strategic Directions for ECA, adopted by the Conference of Ministers responsible for Economic and Social Development and Planning in 1996. Following a decision taken in 1999 by the Conference of Ministers on the need to emphasize issues of trade and finance in the ECA work programme, a new subprogramme on promoting trade and mobilizing finance for development is proposed.

14.6 In this strategy emphasis will be placed on:

(a) Provision of assistance to the countries of the region in developing and implementing policies to enable them to benefit from the opportunities presented by changes in the regional and global economy and to create or strengthen their institutions for national economic management;

(b) Sharing of information and experiences, in particular best practices, among the countries of the region;

(c) Research on and analysis of the implications of global trends for regional development;

(d) Enhancing the Commission's role as a networker of development ideas and as an active player in regional coordination among United Nations and regional institutions.

14.7 In implementing the programme, the strategy is to be selective in the coverage of issues, bearing in mind the comparative advantage of ECA and the complementary support of other partners from within and outside the United Nations system towards the same or related objectives. As such, ECA will seek enhanced coordination and collaboration with other regional and United Nations agencies in order to achieve greater coherence and impact. In pursuit of this effort, ECA will use a number of existing mechanisms, including the annual regional consultative meeting of United Nations agencies in Africa, the annual meeting of the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the annual meeting of OAU, ECA and the African Development Bank (AfDB) to leverage the Commission's resources for maximum impact.

Subprogramme 1
Facilitating economic and social policy analysis

Objective

14.8 The objective of this subprogramme is to strengthen the capacity of Member States to design and implement appropriate economic and social policies and strategies in order that they may achieve sustained economic growth and to strengthen their capacity to adopt and implement measures aimed at reducing poverty in their countries.

Strategy

14.9 The responsibility for implementing the subprogramme lies with the Economic and Social Policy Division. The following strategy will be pursued:

(a) In the area of macroeconomic policy analysis, economic trends in the region will be monitored and indicators will be constructed to measure the sustainability of policies and the economic performance of Member States. To this end, support will take the form of preparing country studies, research papers, analytical synthesis papers, seminars and conferences and providing technical advice. Such technical advice will include assisting Member States in the formulation of appropriate policies in response to current and emerging regional and global developments, in establishing or strengthening the institutional framework for improved economic management and in promoting the sharing of experiences and best practices among the countries of the region;

(b) In the area of social policy and poverty reduction, progress in the implementation of regional and global programmes of action for social development will be monitored and analysed continuously. Assistance in this regard will include preparing country studies, conducting research and analysis, holding policy seminars and conferences and providing technical advice, including training to assist Member States in the implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development. An important component of the effort in this area will include advocating measures to tackle structural sources of poverty, with particular emphasis on increasing employment and income-generating activities, including support to informal sector activities, skill development and acquisition programmes to empower the poor; improvement of the delivery of basic social services targeted at the most vulnerable and disadvantaged groups; and sensitizing policy makers and, more importantly, local communities at the grass-roots level to the development challenges posed by the HIV/AIDS and other epidemics such as malaria in order to encourage appropriate policy responses at the national and regional levels.

Expected accomplishments

14.10 The expected accomplishments would include an increase in the number of anti-poverty policies and strategies formulated and implemented by countries of the region and improved capacity of Member States for economic policy formulation and management.

Indicators of achievement

14.11 Indicators of achievement would include the enumeration of specific policies and strategies adopted by Member States leading to sustained growth as a result of the Commission's advocacy and the number of countries that have formulated and implemented anti-poverty policies and strategies with the assistance of ECA.

Subprogramme 2
Promoting trade and mobilizing finance for development

Objective

14.12 The objectives of the subprogramme are to enhance the capacity of African countries, in particular the least developed countries, to formulate and implement strategies for dealing with economic globalization, to develop policies and strategies to improve competitiveness and to attract investments in selected industrial sectors; and to strengthen the negotiating position of African countries within the World Trade Organization (WTO) and their capacity for debt management and debt negotiation as well as for intraregional trade as a step towards integration into the global economy.

Strategy

14.13 The responsibility for implementing this subprogramme lies with the Trade and Finance Division. The following strategy will be pursued:

(a) In the area of trade and cooperation, the efforts will focus on providing Member States with well-researched analyses of trade-related issues and promoting intraregional and global trade. The analytical and operational work would, among other things, highlight opportunities and challenges at the regional and global levels, strengthen Africa's negotiating skills and position in international trade and identify elements of competitiveness that will accelerate Africa's participation in international trade. The issues related to global changes and challenges, notably the WTO agreements and the African, Caribbean and Pacific States/European Union successor arrangements to the Lomé IV Convention, and their impact on African economies and implications for regional integration will be addressed continuously;

(b) In the area of mobilizing finance for development, the impact of developments in the international financial system on African countries will be analysed continuously and a forum will be provided for African policy makers to articulate their perspectives on issues of international finance. Assistance will be provided in increasing the role of microfinance in private sector development, in supporting needs assessments for the development of capital markets and stock exchanges in Africa and in promoting financial sector reforms to attract foreign private investment and mobilize domestic savings for development. Studies, conferences and workshops will be convened to contribute to the analysis of and the debate on the African debt problem and its impact on Africa's development;

(c) In the area of private sector development, the competitiveness of African economies will be enhanced through the promotion of policy initiatives and actions that contribute to the diversification of the region's economy, in particular through privatization and industrial development. Activities in this area will include facilitating the sharing of information and experiences of successful private sector development models in a South-South cooperation framework as well as networking among African, Asian and Latin American enterprises. The efforts will also focus on promoting linkages between the business and research communities to enhance their responsiveness in supporting Africa's private sector;

(d) With regard to least developed, landlocked and small island developing countries, analyses of issues relevant to the particular situation of those countries will be undertaken in support of their development. Assistance will be provided in attuning regional cooperation arrangements with provisions of the global trading system, in supporting efforts towards economic reform and more efficient mobilization and utilization of resources and in promoting interregional trade and investment.

Expected accomplishments

14.14 Expected accomplishments would include increased mobilization of financial resources for the development of Africa, increased trade and investment, more successful trade negotiations in the context of follow-up to the WTO ministerial conferences and improved debt management in African countries.

Indicators of achievement

14.15 Indicators of achievement would include the adoption of policies and measures advocated by ECA that result in increased competitiveness of African countries in international trade, a substantial increase in financial flows to the countries of the region and debt reduction, in particular for the least developed countries; and the number of countries that have adopted investment and trade liberalization policies, including the removal of physical and non-physical barriers.

Subprogramme 3
Enhancing food security and sustainable development

Objective

14.16 The objective of the subprogramme is to strengthen the capacity of Member States to design institutional arrangements and implement national policies and programmes that reinforce the linkages within the nexus of food security, population, environment and human settlements in order to achieve sustainable development, and to contribute to building the capacity of African countries to utilize science and technology in achieving food security and sustainable development.

Strategy

14.17 The responsibility for implementing the subprogramme lies with the Food Security and Sustainable Development Division. The following strategy will be pursued:

(a) Within the nexus of population, agriculture and environment, emphasis will be placed on addressing challenges posed by the synergy arising from rapid population growth, environmental degradation and food insecurity. Activities in this area will include monitoring the implementation of the Dakar/NGOs Declaration on Population, Family and Sustainable Development (1992) and the Programme of Action adopted by the International Conference on Population and Development (Cairo, 1994); assessing the state of demographic transition; monitoring the relationships between women's reproductive health and food security; developing a regional population information programme; and disseminating the population-environment-development-agriculture (PEDA) computer simulation model, which will help Member States to analyse and understand the consequences and policy options available for addressing specific issues in one or more aspects of the nexus. By applying interdisciplinary scientific analysis and projection, the model could shed light on key policy questions, such as the influence on fertility rates of a substantial increase in education level, the impact of the rise in mortality rates due to HIV/AIDS, the impact of increased rural education on the farming of marginal lands and the impact on agricultural production and food security of increased fertilizer use;

(b) In the area of science and technology, emphasis will be placed on the promotion of indigenous technology to achieve the goal of food security and sustainable development. In view of the critical role of science and technology in achieving food security and sustainable development, assistance will be provided to Member States to enable them to understand and decide on their development options in addressing nexus and related development issues. Assistance will focus on expanding existing networks of scientific and technological expertise on the continent and building databases in order to ease access by network members to available information and resources for achieving food security and sustainable development and on enhancing the management and impact of science and technology in Member States and developing and disseminating best practices from which lessons can be learned in ensuring food security.

Expected accomplishments

14.18 Expected accomplishments would include the improved capacity of Member States to formulate policies on the nexus issues of food security, population and environment and to apply science and technology to achieve food security and sustainable development.

Indicators of achievement

14.19 Indicators of achievement would include the number of countries that have adopted the PEDA model and specific policies and measures for the application of science and technology in addressing the nexus issues as a result of ECA assistance.

Subprogramme 4
Strengthening development management

Objective

14.20 The objectives of the subprogramme are to strengthen the capacity of the public sector for effective management and to enhance the capacity of civil society organizations at the national level to participate in the development and governance process.

Strategy

14.21 The responsibility for this subprogramme lies with the Development Management Division. The following strategy will be pursued:

(a) In the area of popular participation, a major focus will be on strengthening the human and institutional capacity of civil society actors at the national level to formulate, manage and evaluate programmes with a meaningful impact on the socio-economic and political development of Africa and enhancing their capacity in the area of public policy analysis and advocacy. Instruments for capacity-building identified so far include training and networking workshops, technical assistance and advisory support, mainstreaming work related to civil society organizations into the ECA work programme and facilitating the sharing of experience among civil society organizations in Africa through subregional and regional forums. Baseline studies to establish indicators for assessing and monitoring the participation of civil society organizations in development programmes would be undertaken;

(b) In the area of public sector management, emphasis will be placed on promoting policies and measures to foster a capable State through activities aimed at enhancing the institutional, organizational and administrative capacity of the public sector to provide essential services efficiently and cost-effectively and promoting ethics and accountability in the African public service. In recognition of the impact of governance on economic growth and sustainable development, efforts will focus on developing institutional processes for benchmarking and valid indicators for monitoring progress towards norms of transparent and accountable governance in key areas, in particular administrative governance. The activities will also deal with such issues as the rule of law and law enforcement, distance education for public sector managers and, in collaboration with Member States that may request it, training in transparent and accountable governance for parliamentarians.

Expected accomplishments

14.22 Expected accomplishments would include enhancing awareness of the importance of public-private partnership for development and transparent and accountable governance and establishing related benchmarks, codes and indicators for monitoring; enhancing the sense of responsibility, ownership, accountability and transparency in public sector management; strengthening the capacity of civil society organizations at the national level to participate in the democratic and development processes in the region; and facilitating interactions among the public, private and non-governmental sectors.

Indicators of achievement

14.23 Indicators of achievement would include: the enumeration of institutions for upholding the accountability of public officials that were established or strengthened by countries with the support of ECA; an increase in the number of countries devising procedures for improved transparency resulting in frequent reporting on and better use of public resources; and the adoption of agreed conclusions or recommendations for increased participation of civil society organizations at the national level in the development and governance process as a result of enhanced dialogue among the senior officials of the public and private sectors in Member States.

Subprogramme 5
Harnessing information for development

Objective

14.24 The objective of this subprogramme is to strengthen national capacity for the utilization of information and communication technologies, including strengthening capacity in the development and use of statistical, bibliographic, referral and spatial databases as decision support tools for socio-economic development.

Strategy

14.25 The responsibility for the subprogramme lies with the Development Information Services Division. The following strategy will be pursued:

(a) In the area of statistical development, emphasis will be placed on strengthening the statistical infrastructure and the capacity for the collection, processing, analysis and dissemination of data in

Africa. The related activities will include the harmonization and coordination of programmes, methods, concepts and standards and the development and networking of national, subregional and regional information systems;

(b) In the area of information and communication technologies for development, efforts will focus on providing assistance to Member States in developing their national information and communication infrastructure and plans as well as regional communication systems for information exchange within Africa and with the rest of the world. This will be pursued through the development of appropriate infrastructure to make information and communication technologies more accessible to local communities. Other activities include the application of information and communication technologies, particularly in key social and economic sectors, such as health, education (e.g., distance and on-line learning and the building of school networks), electronic commerce and content development, with emphasis on capacity-building to organize, manage and locate information on Africa's development at the global level. Assistance will be provided to strengthen the role of the radio as a major, and the most accessible, means of disseminating information in the local communities;

(c) In the area of geographic information, attention will be concentrated on raising awareness of the importance of national geographic information systems to encourage African Governments and societies to invest in the production, maintenance and management of geo-spatial data, as well as promoting the development of integrated data sets and data standards in order to make relevant information available to Governments and the public. In this context, assistance will be provided to Member States in developing national geographic information infrastructures that respond effectively to the needs of the various development sectors, such as natural resources, environment, food security, land reform, transport and communication infrastructure, human settlements, health and education, energy and tourism;

(d) In the area of library development, assistance will be provided in developing a network of libraries and information centres in Member States, building capacity in information management in the region and promoting cooperation with United Nations agencies and other international organizations in the area of library development.

Expected accomplishments

14.26 Expected accomplishments would include increased Internet connectivity of African countries, increased use of information and communication technologies and the availability of timely, improved and reliable statistical data for effective decision-making.

Indicators of achievement

14.27 Indicators of achievement would include the enumeration of national information and communication infrastructure plans or strategies adopted by African countries; an increase in the number of African Internet hosts and countries with direct connections; and the number of countries that, with the support of ECA, have improved their statistical systems, leading to the collection and dissemination of timely and reliable data.

Subprogramme 6

Promoting regional cooperation and integration

Objective

14.28 The objective of the subprogramme is to promote regional cooperation and economic integration in the region, focusing mainly on policy issues, infrastructure development and related services in the transport and communication, mineral, energy and water resources sectors. The substantive issues of trade, finance and investment are dealt with under subprogramme 2, Promoting trade and mobilizing finance for development.

Strategy

14.29 The responsibility for the subprogramme lies with the Regional Cooperation and Integration Division. The following strategy will be pursued:

(a) In the area of policy and institutional aspects of regional cooperation and integration, particular attention will be given to the activities implemented by ECA together with OAU and AfDB in the context of a joint secretariat, established by a resolution adopted at the OAU summit in 1989, to provide technical and institutional support for the establishment of an African Economic Community (AEC). Implementation of the treaty establishing AEC has entered the second phase, which focuses on stabilizing tariff and non-tariff barriers and strengthening sectoral integration at the regional and continental levels in the fields of trade, industry, agriculture, money and finance, transport, and communications. In addition to the institutional arrangements, national and regional policies will be harmonized in support of regional integration and will promote an interface between the regional integration process and the need for effective participation in the global economy. Research and analytical studies will be undertaken to monitor the state of regional integration in Africa;

(b) In the area of development and utilization of mineral and energy resources, including solar energy, emphasis will be placed on providing assistance to Member States in adopting policies aimed at harnessing their enormous endowments of mineral and energy resources through effective regional cooperation. In cooperation with the regional economic communities, other intergovernmental organizations, appropriate United Nations agencies and the private sector, the strategy will focus on capacity-building, common use of infrastructure and strengthening of subregional and regional cooperation in the mineral sector in order to enhance Africa's competitiveness in international trade;

(c) In the area of water resources development and management, assistance will be provided to Member States and their intergovernmental organizations in addressing the problems and challenges related to the underdevelopment of the water resources sector at the national and subregional levels. Attention will focus on strengthening the existing river/lake basin organizations, promoting intercountry cooperation by establishing mechanisms for such cooperation where they do not exist in order to harness transboundary water resources and strengthening the capacity of Member States in the areas of water resources development and management, irrigation, sanitation and clean water supply;

(d) In the area of transport and communication development, physical integration in Africa will be supported by facilitating the establishment of an efficient, safe, affordable and well-managed transport system. The activities will focus on the implementation of the Framework of Action adopted in 1997 by the African Ministers of Transport and Communications for building efficient and cost-effective transport systems in Africa in the twenty-first century. Emphasis will be placed on policy reforms, capacity-building, environmental degradation issues relating to safety and security and information management systems, including commercialization and facilitation of services. In this context, it is envisaged that the partnership with regional economic communities, intergovernmental organizations, specialized institutions and other regional commissions will be strengthened further.

Expected accomplishments

14.30 Expected accomplishments would include: (a) substantial progress made at the national, subregional and regional levels in the emplacement of the various institutional and functional arrangements required for the establishment of the African Economic Community; (b) enhanced capacity in Member States for policy formulation and programme development for the effective exploitation of mineral and energy resources; (c) increased, effective and harmonized utilization of transboundary water resources, as well as enhanced capacity for water resource management in Member States; (d) substantial implementation of the Framework of Action adopted by the Conference of African Ministers of Transport and Communications.

Indicators of achievement

14.31 Indicators of achievement would include the following: (a) the number of institutions and arrangements for enhanced integration and cooperation established by Member States in their efforts to implement the provisions of the African Economic Community; (b) concrete steps taken by Member States to harmonize policies and adopt programmes for the joint exploitation of mineral and energy resources; (c) the number of river and lake basin organizations established and/or strengthened, as well as the extent to which Member States' capacity for water resource management is enhanced; and (d) enumeration of the positive results of the implementation of the Framework of Action for transport and communications.

Subprogramme 7
Promoting the advancement of women

Objective

14.32 The main objective of this subprogramme is to mainstream gender perspectives into the policies and programmes of Member States and to promote the empowerment of women in the political, economic and social spheres.

Strategy

14.33 The responsibility for the subprogramme lies with the African Centre for Women. The strategy will focus on advocacy, policy dialogue and networking among partners on gender-related issues. Specific activities to be undertaken include strengthening policy analysis and advocacy, creating gender awareness and influencing public policy priorities in support of the advancement of women; developing indicators for monitoring the implementation of the regional and global platforms; enhancing the role of women in peacemaking; and formulating a framework for capacity-building in gender mainstreaming. Efforts will be made to enhance and promote basic education for girls in national education programmes of Member States. The activities also include monitoring the implementation of regional and global plans of action, in particular the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing, 1995) and the African Common Position for the Advancement of Women.

Expected accomplishments

14.34 Expected accomplishments would include greater awareness of the need to mainstream a gender perspective in national development policies and programmes, including in the budgetary processes, and the effective training of senior officials from national institutions in gender analysis and policy formulation.

Indicators of achievement

14.35 Indicators of achievement would include the enumeration of established or strengthened national institutional mechanisms dedicated to the advancement of women in the political and economic spheres; the number of countries reviewing or redesigning national legislation to eliminate negative biases towards women; and the number of countries adopting and implementing gender-mainstreaming measures or policies in their economic processes.

Subprogramme 8
Supporting subregional activities for development

Objective

14.36 The main objectives of the subprogramme are to promote the harmonization of national policies in various sectors in support of integration efforts at the subregional level and to facilitate the adoption and implementation of programmes and the integration of national economies.

Strategy

14.37 This subprogramme will be implemented by the five subregional development centres, located in Tangiers for North Africa, Niamey for West Africa, Yaoundé for Central Africa, Kigali for East Africa and Lusaka for Southern Africa. The subregional development centres of ECA will enhance cooperation and integration, facilitate networking and information exchange between public sector, civil society and private sector development partners, and provide technical advisory services for institution-building and policy reforms of the subregional economic communities. The subregional development centres will also convene policy forums to bring together representatives of Governments, non-governmental organizations and private sector agencies to discuss regional development problems and prospects. In undertaking these activities, the subregional development centres will cooperate with established organizations and institutions for development in the subregions, other United Nations agencies operating in the various subregions and bilateral development agencies active in the different subregions. The centres will undertake to implement in their respective subregions the activities tailored specifically to the priorities and circumstances of individual subregions. This would result in greater recognition of the role and responsibility of each subregional development centre in the implementation of the ECA programme of work and the results to be achieved.

Expected accomplishments

14.38 Expected accomplishments would include significantly enhanced capacity of the regional economic communities in the areas of policy formulation and programme management.

Indicators of achievement

14.39 Indicators of achievement would include the enumeration of protocols, standards and norms related to integration adopted and implemented by Member States at the subregional level, and the number of policy dialogue forums convened by the subregional development centres.

Legislative mandates

Programme 14
Economic and social development in Africa

General Assembly resolution

53/90	Implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s

Subprogramme 1
Facilitating economic and social policy analysis

General Assembly resolutions

53/197	International Year of Microcredit, 2005
54/23	Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development
54/211	Developing human resources for development
54/232	Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty

Economic Commission for Africa resolutions

799 (XXX)	Promoting human development in Africa
831 (XXXIII)	The Economic Report on Africa, 1999

Subprogramme 2
Promoting trade and mobilizing finance for development

General Assembly resolutions

48/180	Entrepreneurship and privatization for economic growth and sustainable development
53/172	The financial crisis and its impact on growth and development, especially in the developing countries
54/196	High-level international intergovernmental consideration of financing for development
54/197	Towards a stable international financial system, responsive to the challenges of development, especially in the developing countries
54/198	International trade and development
54/199	Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries
54/203	Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa
54/204	Business and development

54/231	Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence
54/235	Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s

Economic Commission for Africa resolutions

781 (XXIX)	Development of the private sector for the accelerated implementation of the programme for the second Industrial Development Decade for Africa and beyond
783 (XXIX)	The Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations
784 (XXIX)	Africa and the crises in international commodity agreements
786 (XXIX)	Strategies for revitalization, recovery and growth of Africa's trade in the 1990s and beyond
797 (XXX)	Accelerated implementation of the Programme of Action in the African least developed countries during the second half of the 1990s
798 (XXX)	Promotion of private investment in Africa
814 (XXXI)	Implementation of the programme for the second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (1993-2002)
815 (XXXI)	Mobilization of resources for industrialization in Africa
821 (XXXI)	Eight-year intra-Africa trade development action plan
834 (XXXIII)	The third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

Subprogramme 3
Enhancing food security and sustainable development

General Assembly resolutions

50/102	United Nations system support for science and technology in Africa
51/171	Food and sustainable agricultural development
53/183	Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development
54/201	Science and technology for development
54/208	Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)
54/214	Conservation of and sustainable development of Central African forest ecosystems
54/218	Implementation of and follow-up to the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly

54/223	Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa
54/224	Implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

Economic Commission for Africa resolutions

744 (XXVIII)	African strategies for the implementation of Agenda 21
748 (XXVIII)	Population, family and sustainable development
801 (XXX)	Food security and self-sufficiency in Africa
817 (XXXI)	African Regional Conference on Science and Technology

Subprogramme 4
Strengthening development management

General Assembly resolutions

49/136	Public administration and development
50/119	Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries and a United Nations conference on South-South cooperation
53/177	Industrial development cooperation
54/227	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Community

Subprogramme 5
Harnessing information for development

Economic and Social Council resolutions

1993/5	1993 System of National Accounts
1998/7	Importance of population census activities for evaluation of progress in implementing the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

Economic Commission for Africa resolutions

758 (XXVIII)	The role of cartography, remote sensing and geographic information systems in sustainable development
766 (XXVIII)	Strengthening development information systems for regional cooperation and integration in Africa
789 (XXIX)	Strengthening information systems for Africa's recovery and sustainable development
790 (XXIX)	Capacity-building for statistical development in Africa
795 (XXX)	Building Africa's information highway
812 (XXXI)	Implementation of the African Information Society Initiative

Subprogramme 6
Promoting regional cooperation and integration

General Assembly resolutions

50/126	Water supply and sanitation
54/94	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity
54/226	Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries
54/234	The causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa

Economic Commission for Africa resolutions

800 (XXX)	Strategy and action plan for water resources assessment, development and management in Africa
804 (XXX)	Implementation of phase II of the programme for the second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa (UNTACDA II)
818 (XXXI)	Promotion of mineral resources development and utilization in Africa
819 (XXXI)	Promotion of energy resources development and utilization in Africa
822 (XXXI)	Implementation of the treaty establishing the African Economic Community: strengthening regional economic communities; rationalization and harmonization of the activities of regional and subregional communities
827 (XXXII)	Rationalization and harmonization of ECA-sponsored institutions

Subprogramme 7
Promoting the advancement of women

General Assembly resolutions

54/141	Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action
54/210	Women in development

Economic and Social Council resolution

1998/43	Mainstreaming the gender perspective into all policies and programmes of the United Nations system

Economic Commission for Africa resolutions

802 (XXX)	African Platform for Action: African common position for the advancement of women
803 (XXX)	Resource mobilization for the implementation of the Platform for Action (1995)
824 (XXXI)	Follow-up to the Dakar and Beijing conferences: implementation of the global and regional platforms for action for the advancement of women (1996)

Subprogramme 8
Promoting subregional activities for development

General Assembly resolution

54/234	The causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa

Economic Commission for Africa resolutions

777 (XXIX)	Enhancing the capacity of the multinational programming and operational centres
810 (XXXI)	Strengthening of the multinational programming and operational centres
830 (MFC 1)	Reform of the regional commissions A. Relationships between the Economic Commission for Africa, United Nations agencies and the regional and subregional organizations in Africa (resolution of the 1st meeting of the Ministerial Follow-up Committee)

Programme 15
Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific

Overall orientation

15.1 The overall purpose of the programme is to promote the economic and social development of members and associate members in Asia and the Pacific. Specifically, it would assist them to respond more effectively and efficiently to the rapidly changing situation in the region and thus contribute to sustained economic growth and sustainable and equitable development. The programme will reinforce national capacities to take advantage of the challenges and opportunities presented by globalization, liberalization and information technology. This will be pursued by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and the ESCAP Pacific Operations Centre, in cooperation with the ESCAP regional institutions.

15.2 The mandate for the programme derives from Economic and Social Council resolutions 37 (IV) of 28 March 1947 and 414 (XIII) of 20 September 1951, by which ESCAP was established, and has been further elaborated in a number of relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission, in particular, Assembly resolutions 53/183 on implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, 54/23 on implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development, 54/141 on follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and the Platform of Action, 54/209 on follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), 54/218 on implementation of and follow-up to the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly, 54/224 on implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, and Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/55 on integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits.

15.3 The Commission's overall strategy for the period 2002-2005 in meeting the programme's objectives is contained in seven interdependent and complementary subprogrammes. This strategy will concentrate on accelerating the process of recovery from the economic and financial crisis (which started in 1997 and gripped some of the economies in the region), and in preventing similar occurrences in the future. Emphasis will be placed on three major themes: (a) the promotion of regional economic cooperation; (b) the alleviation of poverty in rural and urban areas; and (c) the protection of the environment and improvement in natural resources management. It will also focus on the development of infrastructure and information systems.

15.4 The programme would include analytical work on emerging trends and issues having an impact on economic and social development; identification of suitable people-centred policy responses; facilitation of dialogue and the sharing of information and experience, particularly on the best practices in the region; and provision of technical assistance, which would focus on the provision of policy advice, the strengthening of institutional capacity and the development of human resources.

15.5 Special attention will be given to accelerating integration of the least developed countries, the landlocked, island developing and transit developing countries, and the countries with economies in transition into the regional and global economies. Gender equality and mainstreaming and the rights and needs of marginalized social groups will be promoted in the development of a caring society.

15.6 In the pursuit of its objectives, the ESCAP secretariat will continue to collaborate with the Bretton Woods institutions, the Asian Development Bank and the subregional organizations in Asia and the Pacific. As the United Nations system's main entity in Asia and the Pacific devoted to general economic and social development, it will promote close cooperation and coordination with the other United Nations bodies and specialized agencies in regional activities.

Subprogramme 1
Regional economic cooperation

Objective

15.7 The objective of this subprogramme is to support economic cooperation, which has a vital role to play in reducing economic asymmetries and in assisting developing countries, especially the least developed, landlocked and island developing countries and the countries with economies in transition, in their efforts to become effectively integrated into the regional and global economies.

Strategy

15.8 The substantive responsibility for this subprogramme lies with the International Trade and Industry Division, which will pursue the following strategy:

(a) Strengthen the institutional and human resource capacity of developing countries to respond effectively to challenges and opportunities emerging from the globalizing trade and investment environment as well as to developments in information technology, and facilitate integration into the multilateral trading system on a fair and equitable basis;

(b) Assist developing countries in industrial restructuring and technological capacity-building through, inter alia, the diversification of industry, the strengthening of national technology capability and the enhancement of the role of the private sector;

(c) Create sustainable comparative advantage and promote trade efficiency and electronic commerce through, for example, the appropriate use of information technology;

(d) Strengthen policy and institutional support for the development of small and medium-sized enterprises, including entrepreneurship development, with particular attention to women entrepreneurs;

(e) Strengthen market access opportunities and networks of institutional support services, including regional information services, so as to enhance the flow of trade, investment and technology within and among regions and subregions.

15.9 This strategy will be achieved through the organization of intergovernmental meetings at the regional level; the dissemination of data and information; the undertaking of research and analytical studies; the organization of expert group meetings, workshops, seminars and training programmes addressing critical issues, such as skills development; and the promotion of economic cooperation, including cooperation among subregions, with emphasis on the least developed countries, the island developing countries and the countries with economies in transition.

Expected accomplishments

15.10 Expected accomplishments would include: (a) the improved capacity of Governments to implement policies and programmes for trade promotion, increased investment, industrial diversification and technological upgrading; (b) greater participation in and preparedness for adoption of World Trade Organization and other multilateral trade and investment regulations; and (c) improved national capacity for trade and inter-industry complementarities through cooperative measures.

Indicators of achievement

15.11 Indicators of achievement would include: (a) enumeration of the countries in the region undertaking policy reorientation and institutional capacity-building and strengthening for increased inter- and intraregional trade flow, investment, technology and industrial growth; (b) increased use of e-commerce and information technology for trade facilitation and industrial promotion; (c) positive results of greater regional and global integration of the trade and industrial activities of the least developed countries as well as those of the island developing countries and the economies in transition; and (d) positive evaluation of the effectiveness and impact of ESCAP outputs and services by the users, including Governments.

Subprogramme 2
Development research and policy analysis

Objective

15.12 The objective is to focus research and analysis on the determinants and prospects of economic recovery and durable growth in the ESCAP region, especially on new challenges and opportunities for the economies in the ESCAP region arising from the globalization and liberalization processes as well as developments in information technology.

Strategy

15.13 The substantive responsibility for this subprogramme lies with the Development Research and Policy Analysis Division and the ESCAP Pacific Operations Centre, which will pursue the following strategy:

(a) Contribute to the strengthening of the regional economy by sharing the best practices, operational experience and concrete achievements with respect to the process and implementation of economic reforms, stabilization policies and structural adjustment programmes in the countries of the ESCAP region;

(b) Institute a mechanism to monitor and to keep under surveillance the economic and financial situation of the countries of the region to provide information to members and associate members of ESCAP of impending crises in the region;

(c) Undertake in-depth research on effective, development-oriented and durable solutions to the challenges arising from globalization, particularly in the areas of trade, information technology, intellectual property rights and biotechnology and on options conducive to sustained economic growth, poverty eradication and sustainable development, in the economies of members and associate members of ESCAP;

(d) Follow-up on the global review of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s and the outcome of the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries; continue to monitor and review, in a coordinated manner, the concerns and needs of the least developed countries, the island developing countries and the countries with economies in transition in the ESCAP region so as to enable them to participate more fully in and better benefit from the process of globalization and liberalization, as well as developments in information technology; and support the management of structural adjustment and policy reform in the disadvantaged economies by providing appropriate policy advice and technical assistance;

(e) Explore ways to reduce and prevent deterioration in the socio-economic conditions and circumstances of the disadvantaged economies in the ESCAP region, such as the least developed countries, the island developing countries and the countries with economies in transition. A number of important parameters and forces in the growth and development of those countries may be identified, assessed and brought to the attention of the concerned Governments and their international economic partners and development partners;

(f) Undertake a systematic, comprehensive and integrated analysis of development patterns and prospects in the region, through in-depth research on regional needs and perspectives in development as regards macroeconomic policy, management and governance, and provide related technical assistance and advisory services on macroeconomic policy and the management of economic reform. In this connection, emphasis will be placed on analytical work on economic and financial monitoring and surveillance in the region, in close consultation with international and financial institutions, in order to respond in a timely way to new challenges arising from globalization.

Expected accomplishments

15.14 Expected accomplishments would include: (a) policy reforms in the countries of the region for dealing with the implications of global developments; (b) greater regional cooperation in macroeconomic policy formulation (through an enhanced appreciation of the spillover efforts of domestic policy responses and strengthened national capacity in the design and implementation of macroeconomic policies aimed at stabilization and sustainable economic growth with equity); and (c) strengthened national capacity for the effective articulation of the concerns of the disadvantaged economies of the region in international forums.

Indicators of achievement

15.15 Indicators of achievement would include: (a) the extent to which appropriate macroeconomic policies advocated by ESCAP were incorporated at the national or regional levels; (b) the extent to which relevant policy-oriented research and studies on macroeconomic issues were used by Governments, regional organizations and research institutions; (c) the increased sharing of experiences, including those related to monitoring and surveillance of key economic indicators that can signal early warning of an impending crisis; and (d) a positive evaluation of the effectiveness and impact of ESCAP outputs and services by the users, including Governments.

Subprogramme 3
Social development

Objective

15.16 The objective of this subprogramme is to accelerate the attainment by member countries of the goals and targets of poverty alleviation, employment expansion and social integration (in pursuance of the Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development and its review outcome, as well as the Agenda for Action on Social Development in the ESCAP Region), including the implementation of global and regional plans of action related to women, youth, human resources development, disabled persons and older persons; and to promote effective partnerships with both Governments and civil society.

Strategy

15.17 The substantive responsibility for this subprogramme rests with the Social Development Division, which will pursue the following strategy:

(a) Accelerate the formulation and implementation of effective social policy and programme initiatives to ensure a caring society for all and to promote the right to and full participation of disadvantaged groups, with greater focus on people living with disabilities and including older persons, in development. This will be reflected in: strengthened national capabilities in social development planning; strengthened local, national and regional institutions and mechanisms to support coherent and collaborative action; improved mobilization and utilization of resources for social development programmes; the empowerment of disadvantaged groups, including the poor, people with disabilities, children and older persons, through the equalization of opportunities, the elimination of discrimination, and improved access to social services and productive assets, such as credit and skills development; and the breaking down of barriers to mobility by improving access to the physical environment, infrastructure and information technology;

(b) Enhance the productivity and quality of human resources through the formulation and implementation of human resources development policies and programmes, with special focus on education and skills training, health promotion and income-generation/employment creation, for the poor and other key target groups, such as youth. This will be undertaken through the provision of training (for national personnel from both the public and non-governmental organization (NGO) sectors) on human development values and tools for the effective planning and delivery of social and health services, as well as income-generation schemes for the poor; promotion of integrated health services for young persons focusing on reproductive health, substance abuse prevention and HIV/AIDS prevention; and government-NGO cooperation in the delivery of non-formal education services, including adult education, literacy promotion and the development of information, education and communication material for out-of-school youth, children and other marginalized social groups;

(c) Promote gender equality through gender mainstreaming, advancing the economic, social and political status of women and protecting the rights of women. This will be undertaken by empowering women to meet the challenges of the gender impact of global economic, social and technological changes and demographic processes on such issues as work and employment and social security, especially for poor women; promoting the role of women in transformative leadership at the local and national levels; promoting and protecting the human rights of women, including integrated approaches to combating violence against women; and strengthening mechanisms to mainstream gender into the public policy agenda;

(d) The above will be achieved through the promotion of wider information exchange through intergovernmental and expert group meetings, technical publications and increased use of media and information technology; the provision of support for national institution-building initiatives, including human resources development through group training and advisory services; and the strengthening of regional networks and cooperation, especially with other United Nations and subregional intergovernmental bodies.

Expected accomplishments

15.18 Expected accomplishments would include: (a) enhanced national mechanisms for social development policy and programme implementation; (b) enhanced capability of national personnel to plan and implement social policy, human resources development and women in development programmes; (c) more responsive health and social services for key target groups, such as the poor, women, youth, children, disabled persons and older persons, the empowerment of those groups and their enhanced participation in national development processes; (d) more gender-sensitive programmes and increased understanding of critical issues on the empowerment of women, including the impact of globalization and of measures to integrate women into the globalization process and increased capacity to exercise women's rights as human rights; and (e) more effective coordination and networking among Governments, United Nations agencies and members of civil society.

Indicators of achievement

15.19 Indicators of achievement would include: (a) an increase in the number of Governments conducting national reviews and participating in regional reviews of global and regional plans of action related to social development, human resources development and women in development; (b) the enumeration of plans, policies and best practices advocated by ESCAP adopted and/or adapted at the national, subregional and regional levels in the fields of social policy, human resources development and women in development; (c) the positive evaluation of the effectiveness and impact of ESCAP outputs and services by the users, including Governments, NGOs and the public; and (d) enhanced flow of information and coordination with government agencies, NGOs and other United Nations agencies.

Subprogramme 4
Population and rural and urban development

Objective

15.20 The objective is to identify and create a better understanding of economic and social issues in the areas of population and rural and urban development that are directly related to the eradication of poverty; to increase awareness of the critical issues in the areas of population and rural and urban development among policy makers, civil society and individuals; and to develop appropriate strategies and policies in the areas of population and rural and urban development to improve the quality of life of the poor, with special attention to the needs of the least developed, landlocked and island developing countries.

Strategy

15.21 The substantive responsibility for this subprogramme lies with the Population and Rural and Urban Development Division, which will pursue the following strategy:

(a) Increase understanding of the complex interrelationships involved in population and rural and urban development, with special emphasis on the poor, population and reproductive health dynamics, gender issues, migration, employment and production, and the environment;

(b) Strengthen the technical, managerial and organizational capacity of Governments at all levels to formulate integrated population, rural and urban development policies and programmes for eradicating poverty and improving the quality of life, taking into account the regional implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, held at Cairo in 1994, the recommendations arising from the special session of the General Assembly on the overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, held in 1999, and the recommendations emanating from the Fifth Asian and Pacific Population Conference, scheduled for 2002;

(c) Strengthen national efforts and capabilities for the empowerment of the rural poor in planning and implementing sustainable agricultural development and the eradication of rural poverty;

(d) Strengthen the capacity of Governments and regional and international associations of local authorities, NGOs, the private sector, academic institutions and other regional or subregional groupings to develop regional plans of action and activities in the area of human settlements that address priority issues specific to the region, in particular within the context of globalization and its manifestation in the financial, social, economic, cultural and political spheres, and within the framework of the Habitat Agenda endorsed by the second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), held in Istanbul in 1996, and the outcome of its review;

(e) Increase and strengthen civil society partnerships with broad participation by promoting participatory approaches at the local, community and higher levels in dealing with population issues and rural and urban development;

(f) Improve the processing, management, communication and dissemination of population and rural and urban development data and information, with a view to promoting advocacy and affirmative action within civil society and for the formulation of effective poverty alleviation policies;

(g) Promote and improve plant nutrition management, linking closely research, rural extension, training and information networks.

15.22 The above goals will be achieved through the organization of intergovernmental meetings, including the Fifth Asian and Pacific Population Conference, to be held in 2002; the dissemination of data and information on population and rural and urban development through information networking, support for regional networks of local authorities and NGOs, and publications; the conduct of in-country and regional training and the provision of advisory services for capacity-building; and the conduct of policy analyses and research both at the macro and micro levels in the fields of population and rural and urban development.

Expected accomplishments

15.23 Expected accomplishments would include: (a) greater incorporation of population and rural and urban development issues into national development policies and plans; (b) more effective implementation of reproductive health programmes; (c) strengthened local and national capacity to formulate and implement effective human settlements programmes; (d) improved skill in the field of information management, information technology and communication relating to population and rural and urban development; (e) development of relevant and adequately focused poverty alleviation programmes; and (f) improved governance based on effective participation and cooperation between different sectors of civil society.

Indicators of achievement

15.24 Indicators of achievement would include: (a) enumeration of the plans, policies, and programmes advocated by ESCAP adopted in accordance with the recommendations of global conferences, at the national, subregional and regional levels; (b) the number of Governments using guidelines and/or manuals and training materials for national capacity-building purposes; (c) the number of countries carrying out policy research and analysis in the ESCAP intercountry framework; and (d) positive evaluation of the effectiveness and impact of ESCAP outputs and services by the users, including Governments.

Subprogramme 5
Environment and natural resources development

Objective

15.25 The objective is to strengthen the national capacity of members and associate members to achieve sustainable development, as well as regional and subregional cooperation on protection of the environment and development and management of natural resources, taking into account the recommendations of the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, adopted by the General Assembly at its nineteenth special session, held in June 1997, the outcome of the 10-year review of Agenda 21, scheduled to be held in 2002, and the priorities given by members and associate members of ESCAP at intergovernmental legislative meetings.

Strategy

15.26 The substantive responsibility for this subprogramme lies with the Environment and Natural Resources Development Division, which will pursue the following strategy:

(a) In the area of environment, coordinate and monitor the implementation of the Regional Action Programme for Environmentally Sound and Sustainable Development, 2001-2005, and other recommendations of the Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific, 2000; review the regional implementation of relevant international conventions; promote the integration of environmental considerations into economic and social planning; develop and implement strategic environmental plans and sustainable development indicators; and promote the increased involvement of groups such as the private sector and NGOs in achieving sustainable development goals;

(b) In the area of energy resources, strengthen national capacity in sustainable development and energy management through appropriate policy and planning, energy conservation and efficiency and enhanced use of new and renewable sources of energy;

(c) In the area of water resources, strengthen national capacity to formulate policies and implement programmes on the integrated development, management, assessment and protection of water resources and on innovative approaches to demand management and efficient use of water;

(d) In the area of mineral resources, promote environmentally sound policies and regulations for the development and management of mineral resources, including those relating to investment promotion, and strengthen institutional capacity for the assessment, planning and development of mineral resources using innovative methodologies and the latest technologies;

(e) In the area of space technology applications, follow up on the recommendations of the Second Ministerial Conference on Space Applications for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific, held in 1999, including the implementation of the Regional Space Applications Programme for Sustainable Development, phase II; this involves the promotion of integrated uses of remote sensing, geographic information systems (GIS) and other space information technologies for applications in natural resources management, environmental monitoring, natural disaster management and development planning, and the promotion of regional cooperation in space technology applications through the strengthening of the three-tier network;

(f) In the area of natural disaster reduction and mitigation, strengthen levels of preparedness and prevention of water-related natural disasters; promote the application of geologic aspects in land use and urban planning, particularly for geologic natural disaster reduction; and promote the integrated use of space technology for effective disaster management and monitoring.

15.27 The above goals will be achieved through the promotion of wider information exchange through intergovernmental and expert group meetings, technical publications and increased use of media and information technology; support for national institution-building initiatives, including human resources development through group training and advisory services; and the strengthening of regional networks and cooperation, especially with other United Nations and subregional intergovernmental bodies.

Expected accomplishments

15.28 Expected accomplishments would include: (a) strengthened national capacity in the formulation of policies and planning relating to the sustainable development and management of environment, energy, water and mineral resources, space technology applications and natural disaster mitigation; and (b) close regional and subregional cooperation among countries in addressing common issues relating to sustainable development and management in the above fields.

Indicators of achievement

15.29 Indicators of achievement would include: (a) a positive evaluation of the effectiveness and impact of ESCAP outputs and services by the users, including Governments; (b) an enumeration of countries that have adopted and used guidelines and training materials provided by ESCAP for national planning, development and management of the environment, energy, water and mineral resources, space technology applications and disaster mitigation; (c) an assessment of enhanced government participation in formulating, updating and implementing regional plans of action and other regional agreements and/or the number of conventions and other international instruments ratified in the above fields, and the adoption of national policy and programme measures based on agreed regional and global plans; and (d) an increased number and greater scope of regional and subregional programmes and collaborative efforts for addressing common issues of concern relating to the above fields.

Subprogramme 6
Transport, communications, tourism and infrastructure development

Objective

15.30 The objective of this subprogramme is to develop sustainable, efficient, environmentally sound and socially acceptable transport, communications, tourism and infrastructure within the framework of the New Delhi Action Plan on Infrastructure Development in Asia and the Pacific (1997-2006) and the Plan of Action for Sustainable Tourism Development in the Asian and Pacific Region (1999-2005).

Strategy

15.31 The substantive responsibility for this subprogramme lies with the Transport, Communications, Tourism and Infrastructure Development Division, and the strategy will be to assist countries of the region:

(a) To develop and operationalize an integrated transport network to support mobility, trade and tourism through the completion of the missing links and upgrading of the Asian Highway and Trans-Asian Railway, and through improvements in shipping and intermodal connections, including ports;

(b) To upgrade transport efficiency through the identification and removal of physical and non-physical impediments and by strengthening human resources capabilities to address transport logistics, facilitation, commercialization and globalization issues more effectively;

(c) To achieve sustainable growth in tourism by strengthening policy development capabilities, including those related to environmental issues, and initiating activities to facilitate tourism travel and infrastructure investment and strengthen regional cooperation through, for example, the Network of Asia-Pacific Education and Training Institutes in Tourism;

(d) To support the development of safe and sustainable transport by assisting countries to develop and implement transport safety plans, rules and regulations, by adopting an integrated and interactive approach to urban transport planning and by mitigating the impact of transport on the environment;

(e) To integrate social concerns into transport, tourism and infrastructure development policies through, for example, people-centred and participatory approaches.

15.32 This will be achieved through the organization of intergovernmental and expert group meetings; the collection, analysis and dissemination of data and information on transport, communications and tourism to enhance awareness of critical regional issues and sustainable strategies for development; the promotion of regional and subregional cooperation in addressing common issues and problems, including resource constraints; the development and delivery of training materials and the provision of advisory services for capacity-building in the fields of transport, communications and tourism; and collaboration with relevant United Nations agencies, regional associations and NGOs, including the private sector.

Expected accomplishments

15.33 Expected accomplishments would include: (a) substantial completion of the New Delhi Action Plan on Infrastructure Development in Asia and the Pacific (1997-2006) and of the Plan of Action for Sustainable Tourism Development in the Asian and Pacific Region (1999-2005); and (b) improved capacity in the public and private sectors to develop appropriate policies and strategies and achieve greater integration and operational efficiency.

Indicators of achievement

15.34 The indicators of achievement would include: (a) the number of transport, communications and tourism plans and policies adopted following intergovernmental and expert group meetings at the national, subregional or regional level; (b) a positive evaluation of the implementation of the New Delhi Action Plan and the Plan of Action for Sustainable Tourism Development; (c) the operationalization of selected international corridors within the Trans-Asian Railway system with links to maritime and other transport modes; (d) the upgrading and operationalization of selected Asian highway routes; (e) the identification and removal of major impediments to the flow of transport; (f) the establishment of regular dialogue between key public and private sector players to incorporate environmental and social concerns in transport; and (g) a positive evaluation of the effectiveness and impact of ESCAP outputs and services by the users, including Governments.

Subprogramme 7
Statistics

Objective

15.35 The objective is to improve the statistical capabilities of the countries/areas of the region for informed decision-making and to promote their use of information technology in the public sector, and to make comparable statistical information on the region widely and promptly available.

Strategy

15.36 Substantive responsibility for this subprogramme lies with the Statistics Division, which will pursue the following strategy:

(a) Contribute to the improvement of the capacity of national statistical systems, particularly in priority areas, for the purposes of informed planning, policy formulation, decision-making and monitoring of progress. Special efforts will be made to improve the statistical capability of the least developed, landlocked and island developing countries, as well as the countries with economies in transition, to identify, collect, process, analyse and utilize data needed for their economic and social development, thereby strengthening their information and statistical base, including through networking of national, subregional and regional information systems;

(b) Collect and disseminate statistical data on the countries of the region, taking into account user demands. The focus would be on greater use of electronic technology in the acquisition and provision of data and information and on reducing the response burden of countries. Special attention will be paid to improving the accessibility and the international comparability of the data disseminated;

(c) Strengthen the involvement of the countries of the region in the development of international standards, the use of improved methodology for data collection, processing and analysis and the greater utilization of statistics. In line with the recommendations of the United Nations Statistical Commission, the ESCAP secretariat will initiate and coordinate at the regional level the development, revision, testing and implementation of selected international statistical standards and, where necessary, their adaptation to meet the conditions and needs of the countries of the region;

(d) Enhance understanding of the role of information technology and promote the applications of that technology, as well as information resource management in the region, especially in the public sector.

Expected accomplishments

15.37 Expected accomplishments would include: (a) increased capacity in the region to identify, collect, process, analyse and utilize data needed for national economic and social development; (b) improved coordination, collaboration and sharing of information on statistical development and statistical standards in the region; and (c) more systematic information technology planning and adoption of more coherent policies in this field.

Indicators of achievement

15.38 Indicators of achievement would include: (a) an increase in the number of countries providing statistical data required for inclusion in the statistical publications of the secretariat; (b) an increase in the availability of and access to reliable and comparable national economic and social data for users; (c) increased participation in the development and adoption of statistical standards; (d) the adoption by Governments of policies on key issues affecting national statistical services and information technology planning; and (e) a positive evaluation of the effectiveness and impact of ESCAP outputs and services by the users, including Governments.

Legislative mandates

Subprogramme 1
Regional economic cooperation

General Assembly resolutions

50/119	Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries and a United Nations conference on South-South cooperation
51/240	Agenda for Development
54/100	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization
54/198	International trade and development
54/199	Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries
54/201	Science and technology for development
54/231	Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific resolutions

51/6	Implementation of the Delhi Declaration on Strengthening Regional Economic Cooperation in Asia and the Pacific towards the Twenty-first Century
52/10	Revised Action Programme for Regional Economic Cooperation in Trade and Investment
54/3	Bangkok Declaration on Strengthening Regional Cooperation for Industrial and Technological Development in the Asian and Pacific Region and the Regional Action Plan for Industrial and Technological Development

Subprogramme 2
Development research and policy analysis

General Assembly resolutions

49/100	Specific measures in favour of island developing countries
51/164	Enhancing international cooperation towards a durable solution to the external debt problem of developing countries
51/166	Global financial integration and strengthening collaboration between the United Nations and the Bretton Woods institutions
53/179	Integration of the economies in transition into the world economy
53/181	Renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership

54/196	High-level international intergovernmental consideration of financing for development
54/197	Towards a stable international financial system, responsive to the challenges of development, especially in the developing countries
54/204	Business and development
54/206	Implementation of the commitments and policies agreed upon in the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the developing countries, and implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade
54/235	Implementation of the Programme of Action for Least Developed Countries for the 1990s

Economic and Social Council resolutions

1996/46	Regional cooperation in the economic, social and related fields
1999/55	Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific resolutions

48/8	Problems faced by the transitional disadvantaged economies in the ESCAP region
48/9	Strengthening ESCAP assistance to the Pacific island countries
49/8	Strengthening assistance to least developed countries
52/8	Third Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific
55/2	Economic and financial monitoring and surveillance in the ESCAP region

Subprogramme 3
Social development

General Assembly resolutions

54/23	Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development
54/120	Policies and programmes involving youth
54/121	Implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons: towards a society for all in the twenty-first century
54/122	A United Nations literacy decade: education for all
54/125	Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

54/138	Violence against women migrant workers
54/141	Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action
54/210	Women in development
54/211	Developing human resources for development
54/232	Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific resolutions

51/2	Strengthening regional cooperation in human resources development in Asia and the Pacific
51/7	Implementation of the Jakarta Declaration and Plan of Action for the Advancement of Women in Asia and the Pacific
51/10	Regional cooperation for the eradication of the demand for drugs subject to abuse and related problems
52/4	Promoting human resources development among youth in Asia and the Pacific
52/5	Regional cooperation in response to the spread and consequences of the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome in the Asian and Pacific region
53/2	Implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action for the advancement of women
53/4	Elimination of sexual abuse and sexual exploitation of children and youth in Asia and the Pacific
54/1	Strengthening regional support for persons with disabilities into the twenty-first century
54/2	Manila Declaration on Accelerated Implementation of the Agenda for Action on Social Development in the ESCAP Region
54/6	Strengthening the role of the family in social development
55/4	Towards a society for all ages: Macau Declaration and Plan of Action on Ageing for Asia and the Pacific

Subprogramme 4
Population and rural and urban development

General Assembly resolutions

52/194	Role of microcredit in the eradication of poverty
53/183	Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development
54/135	Improvement of the situation of women in rural areas

54/208	Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific resolutions

47/5	Regional support for the alleviation of poverty
48/4	Fourth Asian and Pacific Population Conference, 1992
49/4	Population and sustainable development: goals and strategies into the twenty-first century
50/3	Participatory human settlements development
52/6	Promotion of environmentally sound and healthy cities
54/4	Mobilization of human and financial resources for further implementation of actions to achieve the population and development goals of the ESCAP region

Subprogramme 5
Environment and natural resources development

General Assembly resolutions

47/190	Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development
47/191	Institutional arrangements to follow up the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development
47/194	Capacity-building for Agenda 21
49/28	Law of the Sea
50/117	International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction
S-19/2	Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21
54/67	International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space
54/218	Implementation of and follow-up to the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly
54/223	Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa
54/224	Implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific resolutions

51/11	Regional cooperation on space applications for environment and sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific
51/12	Strengthening of the Regional Network of Research and Training Centres on Desertification Control in Asia and the Pacific

52/7	Transfer of environmentally sound technology
53/3	Framework for the North-East Asian Subregional Programme of Environmental Cooperation

Subprogramme 6
Transport, communications, tourism and infrastructure development

General Assembly resolutions

53/171	Transit environment in the landlocked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours
54/100	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization
54/199	Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries
54/235	Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific resolutions

48/11	Road and rail transport modes in relation to facilitation measures
51/8	Implementation of the New Delhi Action Plan on Infrastructure Development in Asia and the Pacific
52/9	Intra-Asia and Asia-Europe land bridges
55/1	Sustainable development of inland water transport in the Asian and Pacific region

Subprogramme 7
Statistics

General Assembly resolution

54/231	Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence

Economic and Social Council resolutions

1993/5	1993 System of National Accounts
1995/7	2000 World Population and Housing Census Programme

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific resolution

246 (XLII)	Statistical services in Asia and the Pacific

Programme 16
Economic development in Europe

Overall orientation

16.1 The overall orientation of the programme is to strengthen the economic relations of the member countries, among themselves and with other countries of the world, in order to improve the quality of life, increase the security of the people and ensure sustainable development. The principal mandates of the programme are provided in resolutions of the General Assembly and of the Economic and Social Council. In its resolution 36 (IV) of 28 March 1947, the Council established the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) and assigned to it responsibilities for coordination and promotion of international economic cooperation in Europe. Further direction to the programme is provided in ECE resolutions and decisions, in particular, the Declaration on the Strengthening of Economic Cooperation in Europe and its annexed Plan of Action, both endorsed by the Council in its decision 1997/224. Substantive responsibility for the programme is vested in ECE, supported by its secretariat.

16.2 The overall strategy of ECE is designed around eight interdependent and complementary subprogrammes. The strategy involves the development of economic data, studies and policy analysis, the negotiation of conventions, norms and guidelines, the promotion of dialogue and the exchange of information and experience. Thus, ECE expects to contribute to preventing the emergence of new dividing lines in Europe, taking advantage of its established role as the only pan-European/North American neutral forum for forging integrating tools in economic and technical areas where all Governments participate as full members and on an equal footing.

16.3 The integration efforts of countries with economies in transition into the European and global economies will remain a priority. Taking into account the evolving changes and needs of these countries, flexible forms of technical cooperation will be further developed in order to: (a) improve their capacity to implement legally binding instruments and other regional standards which they have adopted; (b) find an appropriate solution to transboundary problems that these countries face; and (c) promote their integration with the rest of the region, especially through trade and investment flows. In general, assistance will be given to countries and groups of countries, at their request, by the regional advisers and through the Coordinating Unit for Operational Activities. Attention will also be paid to developing cooperation between ECE and neighbouring non-ECE countries, in particular those in Asia and the Mediterranean region. Coordination would be improved with the secretariats of United Nations entities, the pan-European organizations (the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Council of Europe), the European Community and other regional bodies active in the region, such as the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development. Regional perspectives would be introduced to the global-level debate on major economic issues, regional inputs would be contributed to United Nations global events and programmes, and the involvement of civil society and the private sector in the work of ECE would be strengthened.

16.4 Gender mainstreaming and business community involvement are cross-sectoral concerns that are integral parts of ECE strategic directions. The Plan of Action stipulates that mainstreaming the gender perspective and the involvement of the business community must permeate all ECE activities, and all principal subsidiary bodies will therefore take this into account when they prepare, adopt and implement their programmes of work.

Subprogramme 1
Environment

Objective

16.5 The objective is to reduce environmental loads throughout the region to levels that will not cause any significant harmful effects or compromise environmental conditions for future generations.

Strategy

16.6 Within ECE, the substantive responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in the Environment and Human Settlements Division. The subprogramme will be implemented under the guidance of the Committee on Environmental Policy and, at the ministerial level, through the follow-up to the "Environment for Europe" Conference, to be held in Kiev in 2002, and the preparation for the Environment and Health Conference, to be held in Budapest in 2004. Activities will be aimed at strengthening institutional capacity in member countries, in part, through regional advisory services and the sharing of experiences among them, in different areas: reducing air pollution, safeguarding aquatic ecosystems, preventing and reducing water-related diseases, preventing the adverse effects of industrial accidents, promoting public access to environmental information and increasing public participation in environmental decision-making. Cross-sectoral cooperation, both across the environmental areas and between different sectors (environment, transport, health and energy), will be promoted through the provision of catalysing forums for the relevant intergovernmental bodies, including the governing bodies of regional conventions and protocols.

16.7 Policy direction for the ECE region will be provided through the review of environmental priorities, the promotion of policy instruments to prevent and reverse environmental degradation, and the integration of environmental considerations into sectoral policies. Assistance would be provided to more countries (non-members of OECD) in the region for the purpose of conducting a systematic and analytical examination of their performance in meeting domestic environmental policy objectives and relevant international commitments and in fostering environmental management and policies. Effective monitoring and improved implementation of and compliance with international legal instruments in the field of environment would be promoted. Furthermore, countries with economies in transition would, on request, be assisted in their reform processes to build and strengthen their capacity for environmental protection and sustainable development and in their efforts to be integrated into a pan-European legal and economic space.

Expected accomplishments

16.8 Expected accomplishments would include: (a) the strengthened application of policy instruments for the protection of the environment in the concerned countries; (b) a greater awareness of environmental priorities; (c) the increased ability of economies in transition to implement ECE environmental conventions; (d) reviews of environmental performance in those countries; and (e) further integration of environmental concerns in policy formulation and implementation in different sectors.

Indicators of achievement

16.9 Indicators of achievement would include: (a) the number of countries with economies in transition acceding to international environmental instruments; (b) the introduction of new laws and regulations for the protection of the environment in those countries; (c) a change in the number of countries undertaking environmental performance reviews; and (d) the implementation of environmental performance review recommendations by the countries concerned.

Subprogramme 2
Transport

Objective

16.10 The objective is to ensure the existence of an efficient and well-balanced transport system in the region, with a high level of quality, safety, environmental protection and energy conservation.

Strategy

16.11 Within ECE, the substantive responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in the Transport Division. The subprogramme would be implemented through the activities of the Inland Transport Committee and its subsidiary bodies as well as the Economic and Social Council Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals, which is serviced by the ECE secretariat. The results of the Regional Conference on Transport and the Environment (Vienna, 1997) and the follow-up to the mid-term review conference in 2002 will be implemented. Activities will mainly centre on the organization of intergovernmental meetings, seminars and workshops and the preparation of documents and publications. Through these activities, a forum for Governments to exchange information and views on transport trends and policies in the region will be provided. Assistance will be provided to countries with economies in transition through regional advisory services and training workshops. Subregional cooperation projects will be carried out aiming at the coordinated development of transport infrastructure corridors and networks in central and eastern parts of Europe as well as in the member countries of the Caucasus and Central Asia.

16.12 Implementation of the subprogramme will involve the harmonization of national regulations concerning the various components and modes of transport, the facilitation of border crossings and the development of coherent international infrastructure networks for inland transport. To this end, a set of international agreements and conventions has been developed over the years under the auspices of ECE. Activities will include the updating and further developing of international legal instruments to meet demands from society for a higher level of efficiency, safety and environmental protection in transport and to keep up-to-date with economic and technological developments. This will relate to the various modes of inland transport (road, rail, inland water and combined transport), the various components of each mode (infrastructures, vehicles, operations), special cargoes (dangerous goods, perishable foodstuffs) and border procedures. Accession of ECE member countries, in particular those with economies in transition, to those legal instruments will be promoted. In addition, the capabilities of the Governments of those countries to implement the international legal instruments will be improved, and a more systematic monitoring of their implementation will be promoted.

Expected accomplishments

16.13 Expected accomplishments would include: (a) new and updated international legal instruments on transport; (b) an improved transport network in Europe, including the development and extension of pan-European corridors; (c) greater implementation of international legal instruments in the field of transport in countries with economies in transition; (d) improved capacity of those countries to develop their transport systems and infrastructures in line with international legal instruments; and (e) harmonization of national regulations concerning the various components and modes of transport, the facilitation of border crossings and the development of coherent international infrastructure networks for inland transport.

Indicators of achievement

16.14 Indicators of achievement would include: (a) the number of new agreements in the field of transport and amendments of existing ones; (b) an increased number of countries with economies in transition acceding to those instruments and their implementation; (c) the number of road and rail links newly built or upgraded; (d) the number of new and amended vehicle regulations; and (e) measures aimed at making border crossings easier and more effective for the transport of international goods.

Subprogramme 3
Statistics

Objective

16.15 The objective is to increase the level of coordination of international statistical work across the region and to achieve more effective use of national accounts and social indicators for the policy needs of countries with economies in transition through the timely presentation of statistics.

Strategy

16.16 Within ECE, the substantive responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in the Statistical Division. The subprogramme will be implemented through: (a) the exchange of experiences among countries; (b) the collection of statistical data from member countries and the dissemination of those data through publications and databases; (c) the provision of assistance to countries with economies in transition through regional advisory services and workshops; (d) the maintenance of an integrated presentation of international statistical work in the region and the coordination of statistical activities of international institutions; (e) data sharing and joint data collection; (f) expert meetings on specific areas; and (g) joint development of statistical standards, methods and practices. Through these activities, the subprogramme will seek to provide an efficient and effective response to the priorities and needs of national statistical offices in the ECE region as defined in the work programme of the Conference of European Statisticians.

16.17 The subprogramme will seek to improve coordination of the statistical work of all international agencies active in the ECE region. Furthermore, the particular circumstances and needs of economies in transition in the field of statistics will be addressed and, particularly in those countries, a more effective use of the System of National Accounts and social indicators for their policy needs will be promoted. Support will be given to the development and implementation of commonly agreed-upon statistical standards and concepts for use in international statistics to allow true comparisons to be made between countries and to promote their usage so that policy makers can be provided with the internationally comparable data they need. Implementation of the subprogramme will ensure that essential macroeconomic statistics on the ECE region are collected, processed and made available in a timely manner to users in the ECE member States, the ECE secretariat and other international organizations.

Expected accomplishments

16.18 Expected accomplishments would include: (a) increased understanding by economies in transition of statistical methods and standards relevant to market economies; (b) exchange of experiences and progress in methodological work in priority areas determined by national statistical offices; (c) better coordination among international organizations in the field of statistics; (d) a reduction in response burden and an overlap in statistical work; and (e) dissemination of data concerning the socio-economic situations of ECE countries.

Indicators of achievement

16.19 Indicators of achievement would include: (a) national statistical offices finding the activities under the work programme of the Conference of European Statisticians useful and relevant; (b) a reduction in the duplication of data requests from international organizations to concerned countries; (c) an increase in the complementarity of the work programmes of international organizations; (d) the number of meetings organized jointly by ECE and other intergovernmental organizations and specialized agencies; (e) countries with economies in transition expressing satisfaction with the technical cooperation provided; and (f) users of publications expressing appreciation for data on ECE countries.

Subprogramme 4
Economic analysis

Objective

16.20 The objective is to increase the contribution of ECE to economic integration and mutual understanding among countries of the ECE region on complex economic problems and policies.

Strategy

16.21 Within ECE, the substantive responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in the Economic Analysis Division. The subprogramme will seek to provide an international perspective for national economic policy makers and, when appropriate, facilitate the convergence of their policies. The *Economic Survey of Europe* will be used as a medium for producing the analysis of economic developments and problems in the ECE region and will focus on developments in the region in the past and coming year. The *Survey* will place special emphasis on the economies in transition, including their relations with other countries of the region and the rest of the world, and provide a regular analysis of macroeconomic developments in those countries. In addition, it is intended to continue the focus on structural change and institutional problems, as well as the issues addressed at the ECE Spring Seminar.

16.22 The Spring Seminar will provide the forum for policy debates on major and topical economic issues among senior economists from the government, academic and business sectors and from other international organizations. The population-related activities will be carried out in close collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund, other international organizations and national institutions. Contributions will be made to the continued implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the documents adopted at the mid-term review at both the regional and global levels. Analyses and gender research will be carried out on children, adolescents, working-age persons and persons in old age, using data from the population and housing censuses and household/family surveys. The secretariat will also ensure the follow-up to the ECE ministerial conference on population ageing, to take place in 2002 in Berlin, and contribute to the follow-up to the World Assembly on Ageing in 2002.

Expected accomplishments

16.23 Expected accomplishments would include: (a) analyses of economic developments and problems in the ECE region; (b) opportunities for economic discussion and policy debates between Governments, academics, United Nations and other organizations, as well as the private sector and non-governmental organizations (NGOs); and (c) improved national capacity in the formulation and implementation of key national population policies and programmes in countries with economies in transition.

Indicators of achievement

16.24 Indicators of achievement would include: (a) demand for ECE economic analyses; (b) positive results of readership surveys; (c) satisfied participants at economic discussion and policy debates organized by ECE; (d) countries indicating satisfaction with training events and advisory missions on population policies; and (e) demand for population-related analyses.

Subprogramme 5
Sustainable energy

Objective

16.25 The objective is to aid ECE countries in overcoming two fundamental challenges in the field of energy: (a) the transition to a more sustainable development path for the production and use of energy; and (b) the fuller integration of the energy economies and energy infrastructure of countries in the region.

Strategy

16.26 Within ECE, the substantive responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in the Sustainable Energy Division. The subprogramme will continue to emphasize the development and implementation of sustainable energy policies and strategies; the enhancement of energy efficiency; the efficient production, transport and use of natural gas; the implementation of environmentally sound coal mining and use technologies; and the further increase in electric power interconnections. In addition, increased emphasis will be given to the sustainable use of petroleum products, namely in respect to transport and the environment, as well as to enhancing the use of new and renewable sources of energy. Regional conclusions, proposals and recommendations on sustainable energy adopted by the Commission on Sustainable Development at its ninth session in 2001 will be implemented. In the light of the outcome of the ninth session of the Commission and the Environment Ministers Conference in 2002 under the Environment for Europe process, related activities will reflect a revised programme of work, focused on the development of sustainable energy policies and strategies at the national and intergovernmental levels.

16.27 Fuller integration of the energy economies of ECE countries will be encouraged through the development and implementation of norms, standards and classification systems and the convergence and harmonization of legislation, policies and practices. Energy transport interconnections would be supported, both at the subregional and regional levels, particularly in electricity and gas. Technical cooperation will be provided to countries with economies in transition for introducing market-oriented energy policies and structures with a view to promoting the integration of their energy economies with those of other countries in the ECE region. Specific technical cooperation programmes will be developed and implemented in those countries in order to strengthen institutional capacity in the areas of energy policy, energy efficiency, natural gas, clean coal technologies and new and renewable energy sources.

Expected accomplishments

16.28 Expected accomplishments would include: (a) greater understanding, development and implementation in ECE countries, particularly those with economies in transition, of energy policies, energy efficiency techniques, environmentally friendly practices and technologies related to the production and use of energy; and (b) increased harmonization of internationally agreed legislation and policies, including norms and standards.

Indicators of achievement

16.29 Indicators of achievement would include: (a) countries adopting market-oriented legislation and policies and/or norms and standards that are used by other countries in the ECE region; and (b) countries indicating that ECE studies, meetings, technical assistance and training sessions have contributed to the development of suitable energy policies.

Subprogramme 6 Trade, industry and enterprise development

Objective

16.30 The objective is to facilitate international trade, to reduce the main internal and external obstacles to the development of foreign trade, investment enterprise activities and economic cooperation in the ECE region and to further the integration of countries with economies in transition into the global economy.

Strategy

16.31 Within ECE, substantive responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in the Trade Division. The subprogramme will be implemented through the exchange of experiences gained by both developed market economies and transition economies leading to the development of policy guidelines and recommendations in different areas. These areas include the promotion of entrepreneurship, cross-border trade, transit trade operations, marketing and financing techniques and the implications of globalization and regional trading arrangements for foreign trade and foreign direct investment in the region. Coverage will be given to legislation and administrative procedures in conformity with relevant provisions of the World Trade Organization, the European Union and other relevant bodies. Standards and recommendations will be developed for agricultural produce and will be disseminated among countries trading with United Nations/ECE markets and among users at different levels. Capacity-building activities (seminars, workshops and advisory services) will be carried out for institutions dealing with commercial, business and property laws.

16.32 Through these activities, the subprogramme will facilitate the decision-making of policy makers and economic actors, in particular in countries with economies in transition, on the promotion of trade, investment and enterprise development. Simple, transparent and effective processes will be developed for the exchange of products and services by business, trade and administrative organizations in order to accelerate the growth, scope and benefits of world trade, in particular through recommendations and norms for trade facilitation and electronic business. Meetings of expert groups under the Centre for Facilitation of Procedures and Practices for Administration, Commerce and Transport will be used to develop recommendations and norms for trade facilitation and electronic business. A forum will be provided for member States, in particular those with economies in transition, for the coordination and harmonization of standardization policies affecting international trade, including those related to technical regulations, conformity assessment, quality assurance and metrology, and to increase their awareness of developments in those fields. Greater efficiencies in trade- and enterprise-related areas and the development of well-functioning market economies will be promoted in all member States.

Expected accomplishments

16.33 Expected accomplishments would include: (a) effective changes in practices and legislation in the field of trade and investment; (b) greater use of standardized trade practices and procedures in the ECE region; (c) dissemination of information on best practices in international trade; (d) recommendations on trade facilitation and United Nations Rules for Electronic Data Interchange for Administration, Commerce and Transport (UN/EDIFACT) standards; (e) promotion of public-private partnership in economies in transition; and (f) new and updated international standards and recommendations on agricultural produce.

Indicators of achievement

16.34 Indicators of achievement would include: (a) the use of ECE guides for foreign investment, trade promotion and commercial practices, in the context of a market economy, by countries with economies in transition; (b) the further development and maintenance of UN/EDIFACT standards; (c) the number of ECE recommendations accepted and implemented by countries; and (d) the level of participation of the private sector in the trade-related activities of ECE.

Subprogramme 7 Timber

Objective

16.35 The objective is to achieve forest management in the countries of the region that is truly sustainable from the economic, social and environmental point of view, from the individual forest unit to the national level and above, and to ensure appropriate measurement of that progress.

Strategy

16.36 Within ECE, the substantive responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in the Timber Section of the Trade Division. The subprogramme will continue to follow a holistic, sector-wide approach and to maintain close partnerships with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) (European Forestry Commission, which has a work programme integrated with that of the ECE Timber Committee), and the International Labour Organization (ILO). At the international level, the interaction of trade and environmental issues and the need for internationally comparable data would be of particular importance. The subprogramme will be implemented through the collection and publication of statistics and through the analysis of the situation and trends as regards the forest resource in the region and markets for forest products. Through the Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics, the scope and quality of the information available on the sector will be improved, and analyses will be made on the long-term outlook for the sector as a whole, focusing on policy-relevant issues. Meetings and workshops will also be organized for the sharing of information and experience, in particular on sustainable forest management through the Joint FAO/ECE/ILO Committee on Forest Technology, Management and Training. Assistance programmes will be monitored to ensure that they correspond to the needs and priorities of recipient countries.

16.37 Sustainable management of the forest and timber sector in the ECE region will be monitored and analysed, and Governments will be provided with the information they need to take decisions and formulate policy at the national, regional and global levels. Activities will include the implementation of the programme of work of the Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe (currently under negotiation) in areas where ECE has a comparative advantage, in particular regarding indicators of sustainable forest management. Further, ECE will participate as requested in any activities on forests that may be decided by the Commission on Sustainable Development at its ninth session. The exchange of information and experience on sustainable forest management will be facilitated between Governments, researchers and practitioners.

Expected accomplishments

16.38 Expected accomplishments would include: (a) improved availability of statistical information and analyses on the forest and forest products sector; (b) improved knowledge of the forest resource; and (c) increased exchange of experience on various issues of the forest sector.

Indicators of achievement

16.39 Indicators of achievement would include: (a) the number of publications and analytical studies produced; (b) the satisfaction of users of information and analyses as measured by user surveys; and (c) a positive evaluation by participants in seminars and workshops in terms of exchange of experience.

Subprogramme 8
Human settlements

Objective

16.40 The objective is to improve the quality of life in human settlements, to facilitate social cohesion and security and to strengthen the capacity-building process in countries with economies in transition.

Strategy

16.41 Within ECE, the substantive responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in the Environment and Human Settlements Division. The subprogramme will be implemented through the development and practical implementation of integrated strategies in housing policy, land administration, urban renewal and sustainable human settlements on the basis of best practices and case studies. Activities will include the preparation of analytical studies and guidelines on housing policies and urban environmental performance; the dissemination of best practices; the compilation and publication of housing and building statistics for the ECE region; the organization of seminars and workshops; and the provision of expert assistance to individual ECE countries. The Committee on Human Settlements will contribute to implementation of the Habitat Agenda and Agenda 21 in the ECE region. In addition, input will be provided to the Commission on Sustainable Development and to the special session of the General Assembly on human settlements. The ECE Strategy for Sustainable Quality of Life in Human Settlements in the Twenty-First Century will be implemented as adopted at a ministerial meeting, in conjunction with the sixty-first session of the Committee on Human Settlements held in September 2000.

16.42 The development of reforms in the housing sector will be promoted by providing the necessary legal, financial, administrative and organizational conditions in countries with economies in transition, involving local authorities and the private sector, in order for affordable housing to be obtainable by all. Cadastre and land registration systems will be promoted to ensure security of ownership in land, investments and other private and public rights in real estate and to assist countries in spatial planning and environmental management through the establishment and modernization of land administration systems. Sustainable consumption initiatives will also be promoted at the local level by raising public awareness about the environmental impact of individual consumption, introducing incentive measures and encouraging close cooperation and partnerships between central government, local and regional authorities, the private sector and NGOs. The implementation of human settlements policies aimed at sustainable development will be enhanced through the monitoring of achievements and the sharing of good practices. Furthermore, democratic governance throughout the region will be promoted by encouraging public participation in the decision-making process, strengthening the capabilities of local authorities and NGOs, providing a framework for the constructive participation of the private sector and defining a new role for the central Government.

Expected accomplishments

16.43 Expected accomplishments would include: (a) broad implementation of ECE policy guidelines and recommendations on reforms in the housing sector and in human settlement policies; (b) further development of land registration and cadastre systems; (c) strengthened capabilities of local authorities and a strengthened role for the central Government in these areas; and (d) exchange of experience among cities and countries of the region on sustainable urban development.

Indicators of achievement

16.44 Indicators of achievement would include: (a) the number of recommendations on reforming the housing sector adopted by member countries; (b) the number of recommendations on improvements in land registration systems adopted by countries; and (c) the number of case studies and publications produced that propose appropriate human settlement policies and guidelines on the basis of an assessment of the situation of the urban sector in a number of cities and/or countries in the ECE region.

Legislative mandates

Programme 16
Economic development in Europe

General Assembly resolutions

47/190	Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (subprogrammes 1 and 8)
49/106	Integration of the economies in transition into the world economy (subprogrammes 4, 5 and 6)
53/188	Implementation of and follow-up to the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly (subprogrammes 1 and 5)

Economic and Social Council decision

1997/224	Declaration on the Strengthening of Economic Cooperation in Europe and Plan of Action (all subprogrammes)

Economic Commission for Europe decisions

B (50)	Diversification of forms and methods of the Commission's activities designed to assist countries of the region in transition to a market economy and their integration with the European and global economy (all subprogrammes)
A (52)	Endorsement of the Declaration on the Strengthening of Economic Cooperation in Europe and the Plan of Action (all subprogrammes)

Subprogramme 1
Environment

General Assembly resolutions

47/191	Institutional arrangements to follow up the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development
49/113	Dissemination of the principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development

Economic and Social Council resolution

1992/43	Strengthening the role of the regional commissions

Economic Commission for Europe decisions

E (44)	Charter on groundwater management
J (44)	Air pollution
C (45)	The Code of Conduct of Accidental Pollution of Transboundary Inland Waters

I (45)	Cooperation in the field of environmental protection and water resources and in the field of long-range transboundary air pollution
G (50)	Cooperation in the field of environment and sustainable development

Subprogramme 2
Transport

Economic and Social Council resolutions

1999/37	Europe-Africa permanent link through the Strait of Gibraltar
1999/62	Work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods
1999/65	Reconfiguration of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods into a Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals

Economic Commission for Europe decisions

D (49)	Economic cooperation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe
H (50)	Cooperation in the field of transport

Subprogramme 3
Statistics

Economic and Social Council resolutions

1989/3	International economic classifications
1993/5	1993 System of National Accounts
1995/7	2000 World Population and Housing Census Programme

Economic Commission for Europe decision

C (47)	The Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics in the Region of the Economic Commission for Europe

United Nations Statistical Commission documents

Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics (see *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1994, Supplement No. 9* (E/1994/29-E/CN.3/1994/18), para. 59)

Subprogramme 4
Economic analysis

General Assembly resolutions

50/120	Triennial policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system

50/124	Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development
50/161	Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development
50/203	Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action
54/24	Follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons: A Society for All Ages
S-21/2	Key actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

Economic Commission for Europe decisions

B (46)	Cooperation in the field of economic analysis and assistance to countries in transition
A (50)	The work of the Commission and its future activities

Subprogramme 5
Energy

General Assembly resolutions

48/165	Renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership
48/190	Dissemination of the principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development
49/111	Report of the Commission on Sustainable Development on its second session

Economic and Social Council resolution

1991/86	Development and efficient use of energy resources

Economic Commission for Europe decision

I (50)	Cooperation in the field of energy

Subprogramme 6
Trade, industry and enterprise development

General Assembly resolution

50/95	International trade and development

Economic and Social Council resolution

1991/76	Promotion of interregional cooperation in the area of international trade facilitation

Economic Commission for Europe decision

C (49)	Promoting the expansion of trade for products from the countries in transition in international markets

Subprogramme 7
Timber

General Assembly resolution

54/218	Implementation of and follow-up to the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly

Subprogramme 8
Human settlements

General Assembly resolution

51/177	Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)

Programme 17

Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean

Overall orientation

17.1 The overall purpose of this programme is to promote the economic and social development of Latin America and the Caribbean through interactive cooperation with Member States in a comprehensive analysis of the development process and in providing the relevant operational services.

17.2 The mandate for the programme, which falls within the purview of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), derives from Economic and Social Council resolution 106 (VI), by which the Council established the Commission and entrusted it, inter alia, with initiating and participating in measures for raising the level of economic activity in Latin America and the Caribbean; maintaining and strengthening economic relations among the countries of the region and between them and other countries; making or sponsoring such research and studies as the Commission deemed appropriate; and undertaking or sponsoring the collection, evaluation and dissemination of information on regional development issues, trends and policies. The mandate has been set forth in greater detail in various resolutions adopted subsequently by the General Assembly, the Council and the Commission.

17.3 The Commission's overall strategy for achieving the objectives of the programme is structured around 12 interdependent and complementary subprogrammes. It is based on the proposal for changing production patterns with social equity for Latin America and the Caribbean adopted by ECLAC in its resolution 519 (XXIV). The strategy will be implemented through an integrated approach. This approach is reflected in each of the subprogrammes at two levels: the goal of social equity, which emerges in its various dimensions in all subprogrammes; and, notwithstanding the effective specialization of each, emphasis on the strong links between the subprogrammes. Gender mainstreaming, consideration of environmental sustainability, institution-building and improvement of public regulation are priority aspects of such interrelationships. The strategy places special emphasis, in terms of analytical work, on the design of public policy and on facilitating its practical implementation through operational services in the areas of specialized information, technical assistance and training and by fostering cooperation at the regional and international levels.

17.4 Expected accomplishments by the end of the plan period would include:

(a) Increased effectiveness and efficiency of ECLAC in the systematization of information, technical assistance, the monitoring of relevant regional developments, action-oriented research and interaction with various government bodies;

(b) An analysis of development-related issues from a regional perspective, with special emphasis on new trends and their effects on the performance of Latin America and the Caribbean, using an integrated approach, and a comparative analysis of national experiences;

(c) A stronger role in communicating the region's concerns and interests in world forums and highlighting in regional forums the issues that attract world attention;

(d) Increased technical cooperation between developing countries and collaboration in subregional, regional and hemispheric integration schemes;

(e) The generation of new information that supports bilateral and multilateral cooperation, particularly in the areas of trade linkages, transport, common standards, productive and technological development, the efficient use of water and energy, environmental sustainability and gender mainstreaming;

(f) Wider dissemination of ECLAC outputs, modernized channels of communication and use of more effective mechanisms for targeting various user groups.

Subprogramme 1
Linkages with the global economy, regional integration and cooperation

Objective

17.5 The objective of this subprogramme is to increase Member States' awareness of the challenges and opportunities for strengthening their linkages with the global economy as well as to further the development of agreements in the region and to promote the harmonization of and convergence between existing agreements.

Strategy

17.6 Substantive responsibility for this subprogramme rests with the International Trade and Development Finance Division, which will monitor and assess the most significant economic developments challenging countries of Latin America and the Caribbean in an increasingly globalized world. This implies improving, quantitatively and qualitatively, their share of trade, foreign direct investment and technology flows, enhancing their capacity to exploit new opportunities, analysing the implications of such changes for the region and identifying appropriate measures for confronting adverse situations. To this end, data systematization and analytical and technical assistance activities will be organized to enhance national and regional discussions on appropriate policies for promoting competitiveness. A comparison of national experiences in export promotion within and outside of the region, with a view to formulating policy recommendations on the issue, will also be made. In addition, the subprogramme will monitor, assess and report to Member States current developments on international trade rules negotiated under the auspices of the World Trade Organization as part of the ongoing Millennium Round and on negotiations between countries and groups of countries in the region, those of the European Union and those in the Asia and Pacific region.

17.7 Analytical and operational support will be provided to: (a) Member States and relevant subregional organizations through the preparation and dissemination of documents and technical reports that will foster the exchange of experiences and promote technical discussions through panels and expert group meetings; the formulation and execution of technical cooperation projects geared to the specific needs of Member States in key areas such as macroeconomic coordination, the integration of physical infrastructure and the harmonization of domestic regulations, in particular those relating to social protection and factor (including labour) mobility; and the execution of technical assistance missions; and (b) the international community in its efforts to enhance early warning response capabilities for dealing with the emergence and spread of financial crises and to reform the global financial architecture.

Expected accomplishments

17.8 The expected accomplishments would include: (a) stronger institutional capacity in the public and private sectors of national economies in the Latin America and Caribbean region; (b) the development and consolidation of new forms of international integration for the region in the context of the parallel advancement of globalization and open regionalism in Latin America and the Caribbean; (c) the beneficial effects of up-to-date information and knowledge produced and disseminated by ECLAC on human resources training; (d) stronger institutions that participate in decision-making, implement activities and generate concrete progress in subregional, regional and hemispheric integration; and (e) an impetus to the gradual improvement, harmonization and convergence of the numerous integration schemes.

Indicators of achievement

17.9 The indicators of achievement would be: (a) the number of policies adopted for boosting competitiveness and growth that make use of, among other things, the Commission's analytical inputs, proposals and technical cooperation; (b) the consolidation of new patterns of specialization following meetings set up by ECLAC; (c) the increased use of specialized information generated and disseminated by the Commission as a basis for negotiating processes; (d) the expression of satisfaction by Member States and the echoes noted in specialist literature in the region and beyond of the secretariat's work in specific subject areas; (e) the effectiveness of the technical cooperation provided by the secretariat; and (f) the number of users accessing relevant documentation and reports on the Commission's web site.

Subprogramme 2
Productive, technological and entrepreneurial development

Objective

17.10 The objective of this subprogramme is to assist Member States in the design and implementation of new institutional mechanisms, regulatory frameworks and policy instruments affecting the different meso- and microeconomic behaviour of economic agents and productive sectors with a view to raising production growth rates and narrowing the productivity gap in relation to the developed countries.

Strategy

17.11 Substantive responsibility for the execution of this subprogramme rests with the Division of Production, Productivity and Management. The strategy to be followed will include the provision of support to Member States through the processing and analysis of specialized information and the dissemination of the Commission's analytical results and proposals on restructuring in the agricultural, industrial and service sectors, as well as through technical cooperation. Special attention will be paid to industrial competitiveness policies, including export promotion, the strengthening of national technological innovation systems, training and the development of natural resource-based production clusters; to agricultural development and foreign direct investment policies; and to analysing the behavioural differences between individual economic agents, such as transnational corporations, large local conglomerates and small and medium-sized enterprises, or between different production activities in the agricultural, industrial and service sectors.

Expected accomplishments

17.12 The expected accomplishments would include facilitation of policy-making or policy-review processes in the context of productive restructuring and in the design and implementation of new institutional mechanisms and the design or revision of regulatory frameworks and policy instruments with a view to increasing production growth rates and reducing productivity lags in comparison with the developed countries.

Indicators of achievement

17.13 The indicators of achievement are expected to be the satisfaction expressed by member countries with the timeliness and quality of documents and technical reports distributed by the Commission, the outcome of operational activities determined through such means as surveys and an increase in the readership of the Commission's documents and technical reports, whether in print or on the Internet.

Subprogramme 3
Macroeconomic policies and growth

Objective

17.14 The objective of this subprogramme is to follow up on the evolution of the region's macroeconomic performance with a view to furthering the harmonization of macroeconomic policies and strengthening the new strategies adopted by Member States for achieving sustainable long-term growth.

Strategy

17.15 Substantive responsibility for the execution of this subprogramme rests with the Economic Development Division. The strategy will be to continue systematic monitoring of macroeconomic trends with a view to contributing to a fuller understanding of problems and to identifying policy options for overcoming them. The increasing globalization of economies makes it imperative to continue to assist countries in this regard. The Commission's rapid response capability in terms of policy analysis and formulation of proposals on emerging macroeconomic issues will be strengthened. The exchange of experiences and technical discussions will be facilitated through panels and meetings of experts. The results of research will be discussed and operational activities will be promoted. Activities may include technical cooperation projects, consultancy missions and training activities.

17.16 A comparative analysis of the lessons learned in other regions — whether positive or negative for Latin America and the Caribbean — on harmonizing macroeconomic policies will be carried out. Special attention will be paid to tax policies, fiscal spending, monetary and foreign exchange policies and policies for liability management, to the compatibility between economic policy (fiscal, monetary and exchange rate policies) and the structural reforms that are being implemented in the region and the new types of external constraints that could result from financial globalization; to helping Member States to formulate international and regional strategies to solve the problems stemming from external indebtedness; and to supporting the design and implementation of policies to strengthen domestic capacity to generate financial resources for investment, establishing appropriate institutions and instruments for channelling such resources into capital accumulation and facilitating the acceleration of the accumulation process. Key macroeconomic fundamentals on which sustainable economic growth depends will be monitored and analysed. Investment, investment financing and policies for overcoming external constraints will be studied. Methods of ensuring that the benefits of economic development are extended to wider population groups will be developed, and the need for policies that increase social equity will be stressed. Analyses of labour markets will also be carried out.

Expected accomplishments

17.17 Expected accomplishments would include: (a) goal-setting (and the introduction of any adjustments considered necessary) by Governments with respect to their policies and economic performance; (b) the harmonization of macroeconomic policies in the context of the move towards regional integration; (c) strengthened technical cooperation at the regional level as a result of the exchange of national experiences and lessons learned; (d) an increase in the capacity to design macroeconomic policies that are more consistent with objectives for long-term growth; and (e) a fuller understanding of labour markets and their effects on social equity and, consequently, strengthened capacity for policy-making or for reshaping existing policies in a manner more consistent with the goal of social equity.

Indicators of achievement

17.18 Indicators of achievement would include: (a) the degree of satisfaction expressed by member countries, as measured through surveys, with the information placed at their disposal by the Commission and with the technical cooperation provided; and (b) with respect to the Commission's documents and technical reports, whether in print or on the Internet, on such topics as the prerequisites for sustainable long-term growth and the harmonization of macroeconomic developments in the region, the level of readership, their impact in the press, reviews in specialist literature and the opinion of eminent experts in the field.

Subprogramme 4
Social development and equity

Objective

17.19 The objective of this subprogramme is to accelerate the alleviation of poverty and the attainment of social equity by Member States in the region by strengthening their capacity to design and implement appropriate social policies, programmes and projects.

Strategy

17.20 Substantive responsibility for the implementation of this subprogramme rests with the Social Development Division. The strategy will be to increase the capacity of countries of the region by analysing their experiences to determine which instruments have been successful and to study the principal problems encountered. In the context of an international integrated approach to the problems of drugs, countries will be assisted in updating diagnostic analyses of social conditions, particularly as regards identifying and monitoring situations of poverty, and in analysing the relationship between employment, income distribution and education. The economic and social effects of the production, trafficking and consumption of narcotic drugs will be analysed. International and regional cooperation and national policies for the prevention and control of those activities will also be analysed, together with alternative and non-discriminatory development programmes for coping with the consequences of the problems.

17.21 As part of the strategy, methodological inputs will be provided through the development of new criteria for measuring efficiency in the use of resources and effectiveness in the execution of social policies, programmes and projects. An attempt will be made to strengthen social institutions and evaluate results, with special attention paid to factors and situations that affect vulnerable groups. Stronger interaction between this and other subprogrammes will be promoted to identify and analyse factors that enhance equity and social integration. Policy proposals will be developed on the basis of this integrated approach. This strategy requires a mix of policy-making activities involving analysis, methodology, assessment and formulation of proposals together with relevant technical cooperation activities. Support will be provided to countries in the review, design and implementation of new or additional policies, mechanisms and instruments, as appropriate. The mix of policy-making activities will include technical cooperation, consultancy missions and training in methodologies and assessment. In addition, the strategy will facilitate follow-up of studies and strengthen coordinated action by the specialized agencies and programmes of the United Nations in the areas of production, trafficking and consumption of narcotic drugs. Policies, programmes and projects aimed at overcoming poverty will be facilitated by systematizing and analysing crucial information, preparing diagnostic analyses and developing methodologies.

Expected accomplishments

17.22 The expected accomplishments would include: (a) strengthened capacity of countries to design and implement policies that target the most underprivileged sectors so as to increase the quality of human capital and foster social equity; (b) increased capacity of national social institutions to analyse their experiences in managing social policies, programmes and projects and to incorporate any necessary adjustments; (c) facilitation of the appropriate design and review of policies, programmes and projects aimed at overcoming poverty; (d) strengthened international and regional cooperation and increased capacity of programmes in the prevention of drug consumption and the control of drug trafficking in terms of targeting, selectivity and impact; and (e) strengthened capacity of Member States of the region to manage and mitigate the adverse social impacts of structural adjustment measures as well as the challenges of globalization problems to their economies.

Indicators of achievement

17.23 The indicators of achievements would include: (a) the expression of satisfaction by member countries with the timeliness, significance and relevance of the information, advice and technical cooperation provided by the Commission, to be measured through various means, such as surveys, reviews and quotations in specialist literature and the opinion of eminent experts in the field; (b) an increase in the capacity of Governments to adapt policies and guidelines aimed at overcoming poverty to changing circumstances; and (c) the fulfilment by ECLAC of the demand for advice and training.

Subprogramme 5
Mainstreaming the gender perspective in regional development

Objective

17.24 The objective of this subprogramme is to increase awareness of gender issues and to promote gender mainstreaming in regional development, including within all ECLAC programmes and projects.

Strategy

17.25 Substantive responsibility for the execution of this subprogramme rests with the Women and Development Unit in the Office of the Secretary of the Commission. The strategy will be pursued by promoting the consolidation and strengthening of the institutional mechanism in the region for reducing the gender gap in various spheres of development. The region's capacity for research and development related to gender issues will be strengthened, and countries will be assisted in analysing priority issues for gender equity and for mainstreaming the gender perspective in all relevant activities.

17.26 In addition, the activities of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean and of the presiding officers of the Conference will be maintained and strengthened. Efforts within ECLAC to mainstream the gender perspective into all of its programmes and projects will be strengthened. Information and substantive and methodological training will be provided to government offices for the advancement of women to enable them to strengthen their institutional capacities and to carry out the work of intersectoral coordination. The Commission's role as focal point for inter-agency coordination of gender equality activities carried out by bodies within the United Nations system in the region will be promoted. Studies and research will be expanded, including further study of new information generated.

Expected accomplishments

17.27 The expected accomplishments would include: (a) strengthened and consolidated national and regional institutions whose purpose is to reduce the gender gap; and (b) increased and systematic incorporation of the gender perspective into the ECLAC work programme.

Indicators of achievement

17.28 The indicators of achievement would be: (a) the expression of satisfaction by member countries with up-to-date information and gender-sensitive methodologies and information provided by the Commission on priority issues contained in the programmes of action; and (b) the number of subprogrammes which, by the end of the period, have systematically incorporated the gender perspective into their principal ongoing activities and extrabudgetary projects.

Subprogramme 6
Population and development

Objective

17.29 The objective is to assist member States: (a) in strengthening their technical capacity for monitoring population trends for use in social programming, in particular to assess socio-demographic factors that tend to generate disadvantages and other forms of social vulnerability; and (b) in monitoring and implementing the agreements and goals of the Programme of Action adopted at the International Conference on Population and Development.

Strategy

17.30 Substantive responsibility for this subprogramme rests with the Population Division. In pursuit of the objective, the Division will promote the agreements and goals of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development as well as the key actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action, coordinate interaction and exchange experiences in monitoring their status and make contributions by generating up-to-date specialized information on the interrelationship between population and development for use in the adoption of appropriate social and economic policies and decisions. The strategy also includes: (a) systematizing and analysing data, preparing diagnostic analyses and developing proposals for facilitating the formulation of important operational activities and policies that foster regional cooperation, including the promotion of technical cooperation among developing countries; (b) fostering and improving social equity to protect historically disadvantaged groups and those segments of the population most affected by economic and social restructuring; and (c) exchanging data, experiences and relevant national procedures among countries in the region concurrently, placing at their disposal the Commission's capacity for analytical study and for drafting proposals aimed at improving policy-making in the field of demographics.

17.31 The subprogramme will also seek to monitor on an ongoing basis fertility, mortality, age structure, internal migration and other trends, as well as patterns of territorial distribution of the population in the region in response to the concerns of policy makers. In addition, the subprogramme will facilitate the periodic review of demographic projections in the region and carry out operational activities by assisting countries in strengthening their technical capacity to follow up on socio-demographic variables and trends.

Expected accomplishments

17.32 The expected accomplishments for ECLAC member countries would include: (a) greater capacity in following up and fulfilling the agreements and goals set forth in the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development; (b) strengthened technical capacity in incorporating socio-demographic variables in the design of their programmes and development projects; (c) improved capacity to design policies and programmes for overcoming the vulnerability of disadvantaged social sectors and the intergenerational transmission of disadvantageous conditions; (d) the availability of new information, studies and technical support from the Commission that foster policies geared to harmonizing migratory trends with national development objectives; and (e) strengthened capacity to monitor changes in the main demographic variables required as inputs in social programming.

Indicators of achievement

17.33 Indicators would include, but would not be limited to: (a) the number of requests for technical cooperation received and fulfilled by the Commission for supporting member countries; (b) the number of meetings of experts or authorities of member countries organized by ECLAC for promoting the exchange of experiences and lessons learned in relation to the implementation of the Programme of Action; and (c) the expression of satisfaction by member countries on the timeliness, importance and relevance of the information, documents and technical reports of the Commission, to be measured through such media as surveys, reviews and quotations of ECLAC texts in specialist literature, and the readership of ECLAC documents and technical reports.

Subprogramme 7
Planning of public administration

Objective

17.34 The objective is to strengthen the institutional capacity of Member States' public administration at the regional, national and local levels, in particular with regard to basic planning functions and the challenges arising from privatization, deregulation of economic activities, protection of consumers and the need to improve the regulatory frameworks of public services and non-competitive sectors.

Strategy

17.35 Substantive responsibility for this subprogramme rests with the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES). In pursuing the objectives, particular attention will be paid to: (a) analysing the interaction between economic reforms and strategic public management; (b) formulating, monitoring and assessing budgetary policy within the framework of integrated financial management systems; (c) reviewing and developing methods for the design, programming and management of public investment, with special emphasis on training activities; (d) planning and land-use planning and fostering the design of policies and instruments consistent with the decentralization of government functions; (e) developing an analytical framework and proposals to assist the countries of the region in strengthening their institutional capacity and their endowment of skilled human resources; and (f) the need to continue the work of the programme to improve the regulatory function of the State in promoting the efficient operation of market mechanisms, among other regulatory functions of the State that remain valid in the regional context.

Expected accomplishments

17.36 Expected accomplishments would include an increase in the availability of new information and improved technical expertise of regional, national and local government staff involved in the application of the basic principles of public administration planning and in the area of State regulation.

Indicators of achievement

17.37 Indicators of achievement would include: (a) the expression of satisfaction by Member States with the analytical contributions and proposals to be measured, for example, through surveys, the attention paid by the media and reviews and quotations in specialized publications; and (b) the fulfilment by the Commission of requests for technical cooperation, particularly in the area of training directed towards improving and updating the technical capacity of the human resources involved in planning and regulatory activities.

Subprogramme 8
Environment and human settlements

Objective

17.38 The objective of the subprogramme is: (a) to assist Member States in the further implementation and monitoring of Agenda 21 and other new outcomes of United Nations global environmental conventions; (b) to strengthen their capacity for incorporating environmental considerations in the formulation and implementation of economic policies; and (c) to assist them in the design and implementation of land-use management systems to promote integrated and well-balanced human settlements.

Strategy

17.39 Substantive responsibility for this subprogramme rests with the Environment and Human Settlements Division. The strategy will place emphasis on conducting a comparative analysis of various systems of national and subregional environmental management, embracing relevant policies, and on monitoring changes in the institutional and legal frameworks of countries in the region seeking to further the exchange of experiences and best practices and providing cooperation as required, especially technical cooperation. Issues to be covered will include biodiversity, climate change, desertification, transboundary movement of hazardous wastes, toxic chemicals and depletion of the ozone layer. The strategy will also emphasize policy-related work, including the systematization of information and the development of methodologies, especially the design of indicators for facilitating the analysis of trends in sustainability, and the identification of risks and emerging issues associated with environmental realities. At the macroeconomic level, an empirical analysis will be made to assist Member States to better understand the possible reciprocal relationships between policies on trade and financial liberalization and privatization policies on the one hand, and the environment and environmental management on the other. At the microeconomic level, emphasis will be on production specialization trends and mechanisms for promoting clean production. The strategy will also consist of providing technical support to member countries.

17.40 Further, the strategy will include analytical work on issues such as inter- and intra-generational equity, social participation, socio-environmental vulnerability, different systems of local administration and the formulation of criteria for designing sustainable urban management strategies. Operational activities will include monitoring and implementing international agreements, in particular those signed at the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II). Other issues will be the trend towards decentralization, links between urban and economic development and the establishment of production clusters based on land use.

Expected accomplishments

17.41 Expected accomplishments would include: (a) the increased application of global environmental agreements at the national and regional levels; (b) the development of new knowledge and criteria applicable to assessing sustainable development trends in the region; (c) the systematization of data and the development of methodologies that enrich and facilitate the adoption of environmental decisions; (d) increased national capacity to assess systematic trends towards sustainable patterns of development; (e) increased technical capacity to incorporate an environmental dimension into the design of economic policies and the innovative use of economic instruments in environmental management; (f) the adoption of integrated urban management practices incorporating systematic criteria of sustainability in the formulation of land-use policies; and (g) enhanced technical capacity to regularly incorporate social criteria into the design and implementation of environmental policies and the development of strategies for increased citizen participation.

Indicators of achievement

17.42 Indicators of achievement would include: (a) the number of requests for technical cooperation received and fulfilled by ECLAC; (b) the development of environmental legislation and regulations relating to the application of environmentally sustainable policies; (c) the increased and systematic application of economic instruments to environmental management; and (d) the expression by Member States of satisfaction with the Commission's analyses and proposals.

Subprogramme 9
Natural resources and infrastructure

Objective

17.43 The objective of the subprogramme is to promote the efficient use of natural resources and infrastructure in the energy, water, mining and transport sectors and their environmentally sustainable management, with due consideration for social equity.

Strategy

17.44 Substantive responsibility for this subprogramme rests with the Natural Resources and Infrastructure Division. The strategy will be: (a) to analyse new institutional mechanisms and to improve regulatory frameworks for various sectors and activities, in particular privatized operations; (b) to disseminate the outputs of such studies to ECLAC member countries to assist them in adopting appropriate policies and measures; (c) to engage in technical assistance, with special emphasis on physical and trade integration of countries in the region and on fostering greater policy coordination; and (d) to carry out analytical work on issues of increasing importance, such as the implications and effects of decentralization, the privatization of the utilities industry and the influx of new actors in the management of natural resources and infrastructure services. Technical advice to ECLAC member countries and training activities for officials engaged in natural resource and infrastructure management will also be provided.

Expected accomplishments

17.45 Expected accomplishments would include: (a) strengthened technical expertise and facilitation of the design of suitable policies for promoting the efficient use of natural resources and infrastructure in a context of environmental sustainability and social equity; and (b) an increase in the capacity to manage natural resources and infrastructure at the decentralized regional and local levels, in particular the strengthened capacity of stakeholders participating in these processes.

Indicators of achievement

17.46 Indicators would include: (a) the expression by member countries of satisfaction with the Commission's analytical inputs, proposals and technical cooperation activities using various methodologies, including surveys; and (b) the number of requests for technical cooperation received and fulfilled by the Commission.

Subprogramme 10
Statistics and economic projections

Objective

17.47 The objective of the subprogramme is to strengthen the capacity of the region to produce the statistics and projections necessary for formulating and monitoring policies designed to implement new development modalities and to increase the level of coordination of international statistical work across the region.

Strategy

17.48 Substantive responsibility for this subprogramme rests with the Statistics and Economic Projections Division. The strategy is geared towards meeting the demand for information arising from new economic modalities in the region engendered by economic, social and institutional reforms and the growing internationalization of economies and societies. The production of statistics as well as the data banks of the Commission's technical cooperation programmes (at the methodological, technological and training levels) will be further expanded and strengthened. In the economic sphere, specific aspects, such as internal and external financing, modern services, and variations in the value of physical and financial stocks will be considered. In the social sphere, equity-related issues will be accounted for in evaluating new economic modalities such as poverty, income distribution and the informal or low-productivity sectors. Prospective studies and projections will be produced to gauge trends in the new regional context and challenges arising in the economic and social spheres and to provide tools for the evaluation of advantages, costs and challenges corresponding to differing development scenarios. The subprogramme will pursue the strengthening of capacity for analysing current economic events in order to assist countries with their short-term policies and the introduction of methods and techniques for improving thematic and geographical coverage as well as the quality of statistical data.

Expected accomplishments

17.49 Expected accomplishments would include: (a) increased capacity of ECLAC and member countries to produce statistics, to expand, update and develop data banks and to generate analyses of current economic trends as inputs for the management of short-term policies; and (b) expanded and improved technical capacity of countries in the region to produce statistics and forecasts as inputs for developing economic and social programmes in the short, medium and long term.

Indicators of achievement

17.50 Indicators of achievement would include: (a) an increase in the number of databases and expansion of their coverage; (b) an increase in the use of ECLAC statistical information in forecasts by countries and regional or international organizations; (c) the satisfaction of requests for technical cooperation in the area of statistics and projections; and (d) the widespread adoption and dissemination by countries in the region of methodological and technological advances that ECLAC assists in channelling, in particular the harmonized commodity description and coding system.

Subprogramme 11
Subregional activities in Mexico and Central America

Objective

17.51 The objective is to promote cooperation among Member States in the subregion and to provide support in their efforts geared to: (a) formulating and implementing policies and measures aimed at improving subregional and international integration, economic growth and employment; (b) strengthening the capacity of the subregion to analyse and design appropriate policies and programmes affecting social development; (c) formulating policies and measures to strengthen productive, technological and business development in the agricultural and industrial sectors; and (d) promoting subregional cooperation and integration in the energy sector.

Strategy

17.52 Substantive responsibility for this subprogramme rests with the ECLAC subregional headquarters in Mexico. The strategy will emphasize the proposals prepared by ECLAC in its analysis of factors contributing to recent economic developments in countries in the subregion, in particular, those relating to new regional and national economic areas and emerging economic linkages. Similarly, attention will be paid to the new profile of public policies, the review and intensification of reforms, the strengthening of institutional capacities and the role of foreign investment in capital formation, technological change, employment and technical cooperation for development provided to Member States in the subregion. The strategy will also include the preparation and dissemination of documents and technical reports; promotion of the exchange of experiences and technical discussions through panels and expert group meetings; the formulation and implementation of technical cooperation projects directed at the specific needs of countries in crucial areas; and the execution of advisory missions.

17.53 Analytical studies will be undertaken and proposals will be prepared on social issues such as poverty, social exclusion, unemployment and gender mainstreaming affecting the countries in the subregion, at their request, for the purpose of formulating and implementing specific public policies. In the industrial sector, emphasis will be placed on policies and measures implemented to improve competitiveness, mainly through human resources training. In the agriculture sector, the focus will be on productivity measures, the promotion of sustainable agricultural production and measures for alleviating poverty and building human and social capital in rural areas. Proposals on issues relating to development of the energy sector may be formulated and elaborated upon through analytical as well as technical cooperation activities, which may include advisory missions and the execution of specific projects.

Expected accomplishments

17.54 Expected accomplishments would include: (a) enhancement of the institutional capacity as well as the economic, technical and financial capacity of countries in the region to adjust to rapid changes on the international scene, to identify emerging opportunities and to maximize the beneficial effects and mitigate any adverse consequences of globalization; (b) strengthening of institutions aimed at reducing the gender gap; (c) facilitation of the formulation or review of policies on productive restructuring in countries of the subregion; and (d) strengthened technical expertise and facilitation of the design of policies for efficient energy use in the subregion.

Indicators of achievement

17.55 Indicators of achievement would include: (a) the satisfaction expressed by countries in the subregion with the specialized data and updated information generated and disseminated by ECLAC as a basis for negotiations and with the operational activities (advisory missions, technical cooperation projects, etc.) carried out by ECLAC; (b) the number of changes in the regulatory frameworks in the energy sector occurring in the countries that have received technical assistance from ECLAC; and (c) the number of requests for technical cooperation received and satisfied by the Commission covering the aforementioned subject areas.

Subprogramme 12
Subregional activities in the Caribbean

Objective

17.56 The objectives are to promote cooperation among Member States in the Caribbean subregion and to provide support in their efforts geared towards: (a) formulating and implementing policies and measures aimed at promoting growth, improving their international linkages with the global economy and consolidating subregional integration; (b) strengthening the capacity of the subregion to analyse and design policies and programmes affecting social development, including gender mainstreaming; (c) promoting institution-building and developing national capacities in the field of science and technology; and (d) implementing the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States.

Strategy

17.57 Substantive responsibility for this subprogramme rests with the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean. Traditionally, this office has monitored macroeconomic trends in the countries in the Caribbean subregion as well as progress in subregional integration, thereby contributing to deeper insight into the problems being faced by such countries and the policy actions adopted to overcome them. This support will be continued, and special emphasis will be placed on the comparison of national experiences and on the analysis of policy lessons learned. ECLAC documents and technical reports will be widely distributed and the sharing of experiences and technical debate will be encouraged through panels and meetings of experts to facilitate the discussion of research results. In addition, operational activities will be encouraged, including, where requested, technical cooperation projects, consultation missions and training activities in the relevant technical fields. Assistance will also be rendered to scientific and technological institutions in the subregion for the design and practice of business management policies and measures and for the incorporation of new technologies for improving competitiveness in the manufacturing and agro-industrial sectors. The subregion will continue to receive support for the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, scheduled for review in 2002.

Expected accomplishments

17.58 Expected accomplishments would include: (a) strengthened institutions in the public sector to facilitate adjustment to rapid changes on the international scene, identify opportunities arising, maximize the benefits and mitigate the adverse effects of globalization and move the process of subregional integration forward, taking into account existing regional efforts and changes in international trade regulations; (b) improved economic, technical and financial capacity of the countries of the region; (c) strengthened policies, programmes and projects for the alleviation of poverty; and (d) progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States in those countries receiving technical cooperation in various areas from the subregional headquarters.

Indicators of achievement

17.59 Indicators would include: (a) the design by countries in the subregion of an additional number of appropriate policies for promoting competitiveness, growth and integration as well as social policies, in particular those geared towards overcoming poverty, resulting from the analytical inputs, proposals and technical cooperation services provided by the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean; and (b) the expression of satisfaction by the Caribbean countries with the relevance, timeliness and quality of the documents and technical reports and the outcome of the operational activities conducted.

Legislative mandates

Programme 17
Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean

General Assembly resolutions

53/28	Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development (subprogrammes 4, 5, 11 and 12)
53/172	The financial crisis and its impact on growth and development, especially in the developing countries (subprogrammes 1 and 10)
54/141	Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action (subprogrammes 5, 11 and 12)
54/197	Towards a stable international financial system, responsive to the challenges of development, especially in the developing countries (subprogrammes 1, 2, 3 and 10)
54/198	International trade and development (subprogrammes 1, 2, 3, 11 and 12)
54/201	Science and technology for development (subprogrammes 2 and 12)
54/210	Women and development (subprogrammes 5, 11 and 12)
54/211	Developing human resources for development (subprogrammes 4 and 5)
54/218	Implementation of and follow-up to the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly (subprogrammes 8, 9, 11 and 12)
54/231	Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence (subprogrammes 1, 2, 3 and 10)
54/232	Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (subprogrammes 4, 5, 10, 11 and 12)

Economic and Social Council resolutions

1995/4	Science and technology for development (subprogrammes 2 and 12)
1995/7	2000 World Population and Housing Census Programme
1995/54	Science and technology for development (subprogrammes 2 and 12)
1999/5	Poverty eradication and capacity-building (subprogrammes 4, 5, 11 and 12)
1999/55	Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits (subprogrammes 4, 5, 6, 8, 11 and 12)
1999/61	Science and technology for development (subprogrammes 2 and 12)

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean resolutions

533 (XXV)	International linkages (subprogrammes 1, 11 and 12)
534 (XXV)	Open regionalism (subprogrammes 1, 11 and 12)
536 (XXV)	Latin American and Caribbean Regional Plan of Action on Population and Development (subprogrammes 6 and 12)
544 (XXV)	Activities on environment and development (subprogrammes 1, 8, 9, 11 and 12)
546 (XXV)	Programme of further cooperation and integration between Latin America and the Caribbean (subprogrammes 1, 11 and 12)
549 (XXV)	Coordination for development (subprogrammes 1 and 2)
552 (XXVI)	Strengthening sustainable development in Latin America and the Caribbean (subprogrammes 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 11 and 12)
564 (XXVII)	Aruba resolution on the fiscal covenant: strengths, weaknesses, challenges (subprogrammes 3, 4, 7, 9, 11 and 12)
566 (XXVII)	Programme of work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean for the biennium 2000-2001 (all subprogrammes)
568 (XXVII)	Follow-up to the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995-2001 (subprogrammes 5, 11 and 12)
571 (XXVII)	Poverty, population and fiscal expenditures (subprogrammes 3, 6, 11 and 12)
572 (XXVII)	Population and development: preparations for the regional appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (subprogrammes 6 and 12)

Subprogramme 2
Productive, technological and entrepreneurial development

General Assembly resolutions

51/171	Food and sustainable agricultural development
53/177	Industrial development cooperation

Subprogramme 4
Social development and equity

General Assembly resolutions

50/81	World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond
51/202	Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development

54/24	Follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons: a society for all ages
54/120	Policies and programmes involving youth
54/121	Implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons: towards a society for all in the twenty-first century
54/132	International cooperation against the world drug problem

Economic and Social Council resolutions

1995/17	Enhanced regional cooperation to reduce the risks of drug abuse
1996/7	Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the future role of the Commission for Social Development
1997/18	International Year of Older Persons: towards a society for all ages
1999/18	Policies and programmes involving youth
1999/29	Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction

Subprogramme 5
Mainstreaming the gender perspective in regional development

General Assembly resolutions

50/203	Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action

Economic and Social Council resolutions

1996/6	Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women
1997/17	Agreed conclusions of the Commission on the Status of Women on critical areas of concern identified in the Beijing Platform for Action
1998/11	Mid-term review of the system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women, including the status of women in the Secretariat
1998/12	Conclusions of the Commission on the Status of Women on critical areas of concern identified in the Beijing Platform for Action
1998/26	Advancement of women: implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the role of operational activities in promoting, in particular, capacity-building and resource mobilization for enhancing the participation of women in development
1998/43	Mainstreaming the gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system

1999/17	Agreed conclusions of the Commission on the Status of Women on critical areas of concern identified in the Beijing Platform for Action

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean resolutions

535 (XXV)	World Summit for Social Development
558 (XXVI)	Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995-2001

Subprogramme 6
Population and development

General Assembly resolutions

51/176	Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development
54/212	International migration and development
S-21/2	Key actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

Economic and Social Council resolutions

1994/2	Work programme in the field of population
1996/2	Follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development
1997/2	International migration and development

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean resolutions

555 (XXVI)	Latin American Demographic Centre
556 (XXVI)	Latin American and Caribbean Regional Plan of Action on Population and Development
569 (XXVII)	Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre — Population Division of ECLAC

Subprogramme 7
Planning of public administration

General Assembly resolutions

50/225	Public administration and development

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean resolutions

340 (AC.66)	Eighth extraordinary session of the Committee of the Whole of ECLAC

542 (XXV)	Support for the work of the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES)
554 (XXVI)	Support for the work of the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning
570 (XXVII)	Support for the work of the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning

Subprogramme 8
Environment and human settlements

General Assembly resolutions

47/190	Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development
47/191	Institutional arrangements to follow up the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development
51/177	Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)
52/191	Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000
53/180	Special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean resolutions

545 (XXV)	Housing and urban development in Latin America and the Caribbean

Subprogramme 9
Natural resources and infrastructure

General Assembly resolutions

54/31	Oceans and the law of the sea
54/35	Zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic
54/223	Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa

Economic and Social Council resolutions and decision

1996/44	Coordination of the activities of the organizations of the United Nations system in the field of energy
1996/49	Integration of key minerals issues into the implementation of Agenda 21
1996/50	Integrated water resources development and management

1996/303	Recommendations of the Committee on New and Renewable Sources of Energy and on Energy for Development at its second session

Subprogramme 10
Statistics and economic projections

General Assembly resolution

53/169	Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence

Economic and Social Council resolutions

1993/5	1993 System of National Accounts
1995/61	The need to harmonize and improve United Nations information systems for optimal utilization and accessibility by all States

Subprogramme 11
Subregional activities in Mexico and Central America

General Assembly resolutions

50/58	Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: special economic assistance to individual countries or regions
50/132	The situation in Central America: procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace and progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development
52/176	The situation in Central America: procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace and progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development
53/31	Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies
53/94	The situation in Central America: procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace and progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development
54/96 E	International assistance to and cooperation with the Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Central America
54/226	Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries

Subprogramme 12
Subregional activities in the Caribbean

General Assembly resolutions

53/17	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community
53/189 A	Implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States
54/224	Implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States
54/225	Promoting an integrated management approach to the Caribbean Sea area in the context of sustainable development
S-22/2	Declaration and state of progress and initiatives for the future implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

Economic and Social Council resolution

1997/62	Science and technology for development

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean resolutions

543 (XXV)	Participation of associate members of ECLAC in United Nations world conferences
574 (XXVII)	Participation of ECLAC associate member countries in the follow-up to United Nations world conferences and in the work of the Economic and Social Council

Programme 18
Economic and social development in Western Asia

Overall orientation

18.1 The overall orientation of the programme is to further equitable economic and social development, to promote regional cooperation and to strengthen the ability of the region to cope with the implications of globalization. The direction of the programme is provided in resolutions of the General Assembly and of the Economic and Social Council, which, in its resolution 1818 (LV) of 9 August 1973, established the terms of reference of the Economic Commission for Western Asia, and which, in its resolution 1985/69 of 26 July 1985, amended those terms in order to underscore the social dimension of the functions of the Commission, at which time the name was altered to the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) to reflect that change. Further direction to the programme is provided in ESCWA resolutions, in particular, ESCWA resolution 220 (XX) on the adoption, by ESCWA member States, of the Beirut Declaration, dated 27 May 1999, on the occasion of the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Commission. The Beirut Declaration presented a vision of the role and tasks of ESCWA for the twenty-first century aimed at enhancing the role of the Commission at the regional level, in line with the Secretary-General's efforts to revitalize the performance of the United Nations at the dawn of the third millennium. Substantive responsibility for the programme is vested in the Commission.

18.2 The overall strategy of ESCWA is designed around five interdependent and complementary subprogrammes. The strategy is based on the formulation of regional programmes, mechanisms and solutions to interface with global issues and problems, in both the economic and social fields, to help ESCWA members to achieve a balanced integration in the world economy. One aim of the programme is to keep member countries informed of standards and trends, with a view to their possible adoption and adaptation, without detriment to the interests and specificities of the region. Another aim is to advocate the creation of an enabling environment that would stimulate the achievement of sustainable development with its three interdependent and mutually reinforcing components: economic development, social development and protection of the environment. Within this framework, the issue of gender commands special attention. Structurally, a gender perspective is articulated in each of the five ESCWA subprogrammes as a principal multidisciplinary component thereof. Likewise, it is an integral substantive component of the right to development, which permeates the work of ESCWA and is one of the cornerstones of its mandate: the promotion of integrated economic and social development.

18.3 The implementation of the overall strategy would involve the following:

(a) Facilitating the formulation of new region-specific strategies for development based on reducing the heavy reliance on oil revenues through the diversification of output, the mobilization of regional savings and the attraction of suitable foreign direct investment by continuing to work as a regional catalyst and to act as an effective forum for dialogue, for the exchange of experiences and for building consensus and common positions;

(b) Supporting all efforts and initiatives of member countries aimed at achieving more regional cooperation and coordination as well as cultivating their interest in developing concerted policies, norms, regulations and legislation on regional issues, such as water scarcity, renewable energy resources, environmental protection, intraregional trade, future negotiations under the auspices of the World Trade Organization (WTO), technology transfer and information networks;

(c) Raising the awareness of ESCWA members of their rights and obligations in view of the multilateral liberalization of trade in goods and services and under partnership agreements as well as of the vital importance of regional and subregional integration to the future of the region;

(d) Assisting Member States in determining regional priorities, developing effective regional coordination mechanisms and strengthening existing ones and in streamlining activities of common interest while strengthening cooperation with other regional and subregional organizations by serving as a platform, focal point and coordinator for United Nations organizations with a regional mandate;

(e) Incorporating into the substantive areas of the programme multidisciplinary issues, especially gender, human and institutional capacity-building, the right to development, poverty eradication, the environment, technology transfer and the development and dissemination of data and information;

(f) Enhancing the role of ESCWA as a major source for up-to-date reliable statistical data, information systems and networks in the economic and social fields of the region while working to enhance demand, especially by the business sector, by raising awareness of the increasing importance of information as the most powerful analytical tool for promoting business;

(g) Providing continued support to the least developed member country (Yemen) and other countries with special needs.

18.4 In fulfilling its mandates, ESCWA has maintained, and shall continue to maintain cooperative arrangements with Member States and with a host of United Nations and non-United Nations regional organizations, notably the League of Arab States (LAS), the Arab Gulf Programme for United Nations Development Organizations (AGFUND), the other regional commissions, the United Nations Development Group, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the Bretton Woods institutions.

Subprogramme 1
Management of water, energy and the environment for sustainable development

Objective

18.5 The objective of this subprogramme is to achieve better management of water, energy and the environment and, through integrated approaches, to have a positive impact on sustainable development in the region.

Strategy

18.6 Within ESCWA, substantive responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in the Energy, Natural Resources and Environment Division. The strategy will be oriented towards increasing the contribution of the water and energy resources sector to the sustainable development of the region through the use of integrated approaches. The ESCWA region is marked by a scarcity of water resources and the existence of substantial, but unequally distributed, fossil energy reserves. Accordingly, activities will target the promotion of policies, measures and technologies that will contribute to achieving sustainable development in the region. Particular emphasis will be placed on the rationalization of the use of resources, the development of conventional and non-conventional water resources, the management of integrated water resources, the promotion of new and renewable energy applications, and pollution control and environmental protection. Efforts will also be made to build capacity and increase public awareness of decision makers and users in relation to the need for the rational use of energy and water resources and the protection of the environment. Member States will be provided with advice on ways and means of incorporating the right to development in the management of water, energy and environmental protection. In particular, support will be provided to decision makers in their efforts to integrate into their policies and plans the social aspects of managing water, energy and the environment. Ways and means of increasing the access of the poor, especially poor women, to cheap energy and water, especially clean water, will be identified, and options that would facilitate the creation of new jobs and generate income, particularly for poor women, will be pursued.

18.7 Member countries will be assisted in addressing the consequences of economic reform policies and institutional changes in the energy and water sectors and the environment, by assessing and analysing the status thereof, especially with regard to privatization. Activities will facilitate the establishment and coordination of monitoring and reporting mechanisms on environmental issues and will promote the implementation of the relevant chapters of Agenda 21, with special emphasis on energy and water, by supporting Governments in their efforts to integrate environmental considerations into their development policies. Innovative approaches in environmental management and pollution control will be promoted, and measures and technologies will be identified to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases. Concerted policies and regional coordination mechanisms will also be promoted, particularly for new and renewable sources of energy, as will the rational use of resources. The promotion of subregional and regional electricity and gas networks will be supported through intraregional cooperation in the fields of water, energy and the environment.

Expected accomplishments

18.8 Expected accomplishments would include: (a) the adoption of cost-effective, environment-friendly policy measures and technologies and the identification of economic instruments to ensure the sustainability of water and energy resources on both the supply and demand side; (b) increased awareness and application in countries of the region of internationally recognized standards in environmental management and pollution control; and (c) increased access of rural areas to clean water and energy supplies.

Indicators of achievement

18.9 Indicators of achievement would include: (a) the number of countries using environmentally friendly technologies to augment water resources and produce alternative sources of energy; (b) the number of options and technologies identified to reduce greenhouse gases; and (c) the number of Member States adopting environmental management measures to safeguard the environment and decrease pollution.

Subprogramme 2
Promoting social change for sustainable development

Objective

18.10 The objective is to achieve social change that is region-specific and culturally sensitive in the direction of social equity through the pursuit of sustainable human development and gender equity and equality within an enabling environment, while advocating good governance and human rights.

Strategy

18.11 Within ESCWA, substantive responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in the Social Development Issues and Policies Division. The subprogramme will be implemented through an approach to social development that is integrated, holistic and based on the right to development. This will enable ESCWA to serve as a forum for partners and actors, including non-governmental organizations, in the social development process. ESCWA members have to grapple with such social problems as disproportionate income distribution, poverty, unbalanced provision of basic social services, illiteracy, health deficiencies, urbanization and population movements, especially of refugees and the displaced, and the limited participation of women in the development process. The situation is aggravated by the social and cultural impact of globalization on society, including the uneven distribution of the benefits of trade liberalization, the rapid pace of technological change and the information revolution. This regional situation will accelerate the pace of social change and add to the complexity of social issues, requiring innovative approaches to address them.

18.12 Activities of the subprogramme include providing advice to Member States in establishing broad-based policy linkages, grounded in human rights, between the areas of population, resources, environment and development. Efforts will be made to promote closer ties between governmental organizations and all actors of civil society at the regional level. Integrated regional responses to global conferences' agendas will also be promoted by assisting Member States in strengthening the institutions and the capacity of national and regional machinery. Member States will also be assisted in formulating strategies for sustainable human development. Particular attention will be paid to poverty alleviation and productive employment, while emphasizing the family as a basic unit for social cohesion. In addition, transparent and accountable governance and human rights, in particular the right to development, will be emphasized as a means of promoting sustainable human development. Support will be provided to ESCWA member States and local authorities in formulating appropriate innovative and integrated policies and programmes to foster sustainable settlements, particularly in cities and other urban areas. Activities will also focus on increasing gender awareness at large and on building capacity for the empowerment of women and their advancement by advocating an approach based on gender equity and equality in the region, including the mainstreaming of a gender perspective into policies, plans and programmes.

Expected accomplishments

18.13 Expected accomplishments would include: (a) increased awareness of the importance of underscoring national social policies as an integral part of social development; (b) the establishment of networking mechanisms for social development among partners and actors in the development process, especially with institutions of civil society at the regional level; (c) use by countries and other national machinery of national social indicators and new information technology to monitor progress made in the implementation of the recommendations of global conferences; and (d) improved use of gender statistics as a tool for analysis and formulation of gender-sensitive social policies.

Indicators of achievement

18.14 Indicators of achievement would include: (a) the number of countries producing national reports and adopting national social policies; (b) the number of joint reports, committees and projects between Governments and institutions of civil society at the national level; (c) the number of countries and institutions using national social indicators in monitoring human development; and (d) the number of countries and institutions incorporating a gender perspective into policies, plans and statistics.

Subprogramme 3
Economic development and regional cooperation during the evolution of a globalized world economy

Objective

18.15 The objective is to sustain economic development in the region while achieving balanced integration into the world economy.

Strategy

18.16 Within ESCWA, the substantive responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in the Economic Development Issues and Policies Division. Implementation of the subprogramme will require the formulation of appropriate economic policies and development strategies in response to the new challenges and opportunities created by the rapidly evolving globalization phenomenon and the increasing trend towards establishing regional trade blocs. These policies should also take into consideration the need for transparent and accountable governance, while enhancing the role of the private sector, and the emergence of issues with an international mandate, such as poverty eradication, gender mainstreaming, protection of the environment and the emphasis on the human face of development, by securing the right to development. The capacity of ESCWA member countries to meet these challenges and opportunities will be enhanced by their increasing awareness and understanding of the rights and obligations arising from accession to WTO, joining regional and subregional blocs and taking part in partnership agreements, as well as the liberalization of financial markets.

18.17 In-depth reviews, assessments and analyses of the economic situation in the region will be provided with a view to enhancing macroeconomic management. Special emphasis will be placed on international and intraregional trade, financial markets, public finance and foreign direct investment through joint ventures with transnational corporations. Member States will be supported in identifying and formulating alternative development strategies based on diversifying and mobilizing national resources to offset fluctuations in oil revenues, facilitating foreign direct investment, the flow of intraregional investment and the return of capital that has been invested outside the region. Activities will also focus on defining the role of Governments, the private sector and civil society in economic activities and their responsibility for development. Capacity-building for decision-making at all levels will be encouraged in the light of evolving development strategies. The awareness of Member States will be increased with regard to the significance of promoting the human aspects of economic development by highlighting its impact on reducing social injustice and by supporting the right to development, gender mainstreaming and poverty eradication.

Expected accomplishments

18.18 Expected accomplishments would include: (a) enhanced ability of member countries to monitor targets for achieving sustainable economic development; (b) increased efficiency and stability in macroeconomic management; (c) increased awareness among Member States of the challenges to their economy and opportunities created by the new international trading system and existing and potential regional blocs; and (d) an enhanced and effective contribution of the private sector to economic activity.

Indicators of achievement

18.19 Indicators of achievement would include: (a) the availability of timely economic statistics and analyses for policy makers; (b) the number of countries adopting measures to increase the efficiency and stability of macroeconomic management; (c) the extent of assistance provided to member countries to help them to understand the implications for their economy of the new international trading system and the formation of regional economic groupings and an increase in the number of countries acceding thereto; and (d) the rate of contribution of the private sector to the gross domestic product, employment, fixed capital formation and trade.

Subprogramme 4

Coordination of sectoral policies and harmonization of norms and standards for sustainable development within global changes

Objective

18.20 The objective is to have a positive impact on sustainable development through the coordination of sectoral policies and the harmonization of sectoral norms and standards within the region to achieve compatibility with international requirements, thus enhancing the competitiveness of goods and services.

Strategy

18.21 In the ESCWA region the persistence of fluctuations in the oil market makes the development of the non-oil sectors the only way of achieving diversification in output and of creating new sources of income. In addition, accession to WTO, as well as integration into regional and subregional blocs and participation in partnership agreements, require that competitiveness in output be achieved through the implementation of advanced technology, the modernization of production support services, especially in the transport and telecommunication sectors, and adherence to internationally recognized standards and regulations. These are prerequisites to benefiting from the opportunities of a free-trading system. The obligation to comply with international mandates on some emerging issues requires further commitment to incorporating the right to development, poverty eradication, gender mainstreaming and protection of the environment into the planning and implementation of sectoral policies.

18.22 Support will be provided to Member States in the formulation of coordinated sectoral policies and harmonization of norms, standards and regulations to create agricultural and manufacturing industries that are export-oriented and compatible with the requirements of a free-trading system. Measures to facilitate capacity development, including technological innovations, will be identified in order to enhance productivity, competitiveness and environmental compatibility of output. Member States will be advised on the facilitation of national, intraregional and interregional transport and telecommunications operations to support the physical flow of goods and the movement of people as well as on the integration of markets at the national and regional levels. The awareness of both the Governments and the private sector would be increased with regard to the need for rational utilization of scarce resources, especially land and water, in sectoral production and investment activities. Additionally, awareness among ESCWA member States would be increased with regard to the importance of addressing the social aspect of sectoral development. This would be achieved by identifying production, transport and telecommunication activities that benefit the least advantaged groups of society, especially women, and helping to bridge the gap between rural and urban areas.

Expected accomplishments

18.23 Expected accomplishments would include: (a) increased facilitation of physical and information transboundary flows among Member States; (b) enhanced competitiveness through increased capacity-building in relevant productive sectors; (c) enhanced sectoral productivity through increased usage by Member States of environment-friendly measures and improved linkages between technology and sectoral development; and (d) integration between rural and urban areas, taking into consideration the necessary interaction between the agricultural sector and other sectors.

Indicators of achievement

18.24 Indicators of achievement would include: (a) the number of Member States adopting improved quality regimes and building networks and infrastructure; (b) a reduction in the number of technical barriers across borders; (c) an increased number of Member States adopting appropriate legal instruments to ensure competitiveness; (d) the number of institutions achieving ISO 9000 and 14000 standards and other international standards and the extent of assistance provided in building the requisite technological skills; (e) the extent of identification and usage, by Member States, of environment-friendly options in sectoral development and increased use of technology to promote sectoral development; and (f) the number of countries adopting policies for ensuring sustainable livelihoods in rural areas.

Subprogramme 5
Development, coordination and harmonization of statistics

Objective

18.25 The objective of this subprogramme is to promote the development of statistics at the national level and coordinate them at the regional level in order to effectively meet planning, policy-making and administrative requirements for addressing emerging national and regional economic and social priorities.

Strategy

18.26 Within ESCWA, substantive responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in the Statistics Division. The strategy will be implemented in coordination with international organizations and in cooperation with national and regional institutions. It would contribute to the development of national and regional statistics in the ESCWA region with a view to producing and disseminating the reliable, timely, standardized, gender-sensitive and comparable statistics needed by planners, policy makers, public and private enterprises, researchers and regional and international organizations. While the development of statistics in ESCWA member States gained momentum at the end of the twentieth century, the ability of those States to effectively meet planning, policy-making and administrative requirements in the twenty-first century will still fall short of desired results. Activities will provide a response to the mounting demand for social statistics and indicators generated by the recommendations of a number of United Nations global conferences in the field of social development. Accordingly, a better balance will be established through the provision of both economic and social statistics.

18.27 Activities of the subprogramme will strengthen the role of ESCWA as a neutral source of reliable statistics and information on the region by upgrading the collection, compilation, processing and dissemination of data using the latest information technologies. In addition, the demand for statistics will be simultaneously increased through the enhancement of the capacity of end-users, especially the business sector, to make proper utilization of statistical data and information. Contributions will be made to statistical capacity-building in member States by assisting them in upgrading the statistical capabilities of their national cadres and by improving and expanding their statistical infrastructures in accordance with international criteria, concepts and methodologies, thereby enabling the implementation of international programmes and recommendations.

18.28 Member States will be assisted in adopting and using economic statistics and measuring indicators needed for monitoring development policies as well as for implementing corrective measures and adjusting economic policies. A core of social statistics and measurement indicators will be developed for adoption by ESCWA members to monitor various aspects of the quality of life, such as employment/unemployment, poverty, gender and other issues. Activities will promote cooperation and the exchange of information, views and experiences among national statistical agencies in the region with a view to enhancing regional harmonization and integration and improving the regional role in the international arena in the area of statistics.

Expected accomplishments

18.29 Expected accomplishments would include: (a) improved national capacity to use statistical tools for data analysis, guided by international standards; (b) increased production and use by member States of economic and social indicators needed for monitoring development policies, especially economic adjustment policies and human development; (c) further development and increased usage of a core of social statistics and indicators to monitor progress as part of the follow-up to the recommendations of global conferences; and (d) improved capacity-building for the expanded production and use of statistics in new areas, such as gender, energy and the environment, and the application thereof by member countries and institutions concerned.

Indicators of achievement

18.30 Indicators of achievement would include: (a) the number of countries covered and the number of personnel trained in the use of international statistical standards; (b) the number of new areas covered; (c) the number of statistical reports produced on the basis of international standards; (d) the number of joint reports, committees, meetings and projects between Governments and civil society institutions at the regional level; (e) the extent of application, by member States and institutions, of a core of social statistics in their statistical reports on follow-up to the recommendations of global conferences; and (f) the degree of inclusion of new statistical areas in statistical reports produced by member countries.

Legislative mandates

Programme 18
Economic and social development in Western Asia

General Assembly resolutions

49/103	Food and agricultural development (subprogrammes 1 and 4)
51/176	Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (subprogrammes 2 and 5)
52/100	Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and implementation of the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action (all subprogrammes)
52/194	Role of microcredit in the eradication of poverty (subprogrammes 2 and 4)
52/195	Women in development (subprogrammes 2 and 4)
52/196	Developing human resources for development (subprogrammes 2, 3 and 4)
53/155	Right to development (subprogrammes 2 and 3)
53/198	Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (subprogrammes 2, 3 and 4)

Economic and Social Council resolution

1996/46	Regional cooperation in the economic, social and related fields (subprogrammes 2 and 3)

Economic and Social Council agreed conclusion

1997/2	Mainstreaming the gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system (all subprogrammes)

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia resolution

220 (XX)	Adoption of the Beirut Declaration (all subprogrammes)

Subprogramme 1
Management of water, energy and the environment for sustainable development

General Assembly resolutions

47/194	Capacity-building for Agenda 21
49/111	Report of the Commission on Sustainable Development on its second session
50/126	Water supply and sanitation

Economic and Social Council resolutions

1991/85	Water resources development and progress in the implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan
1991/86	Development and efficient use of energy resources

Commission on Sustainable Development resolution

6/1	Strategic approaches to freshwater management

Subprogramme 2
Promoting social change for sustainable development

General Assembly resolutions

51/177	Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)
52/25	Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development
53/120	Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action
53/146	Human rights and extreme poverty

Economic and Social Council resolutions

1997/17	Agreed conclusions of the Commission on the Status of Women on the critical areas of concern identified in the Beijing Platform for Action
1998/43	Mainstreaming the gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system
1998/44	Integrated and coordinated implementation and follow-up of major United Nations conferences and summits

Subprogramme 3
Economic development and regional cooperation during the evolution of a globalized world economy

General Assembly resolutions

48/180	Entrepreneurship and privatization for economic growth and sustainable development
49/97	Strengthening international organizations in the area of multilateral trade
49/101	United Nations International Symposium on Trade Efficiency
50/91	Global financial integration: challenges and opportunities

52/186	Renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership
52/196	Developing human resources for development
52/205	Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries
53/155	Right to development
53/169	Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence
53/170	International trade and development
53/175	Enhancing international cooperation towards a durable solution to the external debt problem of developing countries

Subprogramme 4
Coordination of sectoral policies and harmonization of norms and standards for sustainable development within global changes

General Assembly resolutions

51/172	Communication for development programmes in the United Nations system
52/184	Science and technology for development
53/177	Industrial development cooperation

Subprogramme 5
Development, coordination and harmonization of statistics

Economic and Social Council resolution

1993/5	1993 System of National Accounts

Programme 19
Human rights

Overall orientation

19.1 The purpose of the United Nations human rights programme is to promote universal enjoyment of all human rights by giving practical effect to the will and resolve of the world community as expressed by the United Nations. Its mandate derives from Articles 1, 13 and 55 of the Charter of the United Nations, the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights (A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III) and subsequently endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 48/121 of 20 December 1993, the mandate of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights as defined in Assembly resolution 48/141 of the same date, international human rights instruments adopted by the United Nations and the resolutions and decisions of policy-making bodies. The programme is based on the principles and recommendations of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action.

19.2 The programme is under the responsibility of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, who performs her or his functions under the direction and authority of the Secretary-General in accordance with General Assembly resolution 48/141. Its objectives are to provide the leading role on human rights issues and to emphasize the importance of human rights on the international and national agendas; to promote international cooperation for human rights; to stimulate and coordinate action across the whole United Nations system; to promote universal ratification and implementation of international standards and to assist in the development of new norms; to support human rights organs and treaty monitoring bodies; to anticipate serious violations and react to violations; to emphasize preventive human rights action and promote the establishment of national human rights infrastructures; to undertake human rights field activities and operations; and to provide education, information, advisory services and technical assistance in the field of human rights.

19.3 By the end of the period covered by the present medium-term plan, it is expected that the following will have been accomplished:

(a) A significant enhancement and strengthening of international cooperation in the field of human rights leading to increased effectiveness of international machinery, improved respect for human rights at the national level, through, inter alia, universal ratification of all international human rights treaties, the incorporation of those standards into the domestic legislation of States and the continuing adaptation of the United Nations human rights machinery to current and future needs in the promotion and protection of human rights, as reflected in the Vienna Declaration;

(b) A major strengthening of coordination for human rights across the United Nations system, leading to a comprehensive and integrated approach to the promotion and protection of human rights based on the contribution of each of the United Nations organs, bodies and specialized agencies whose activities deal with human rights and on improved inter-agency cooperation and coordination;

(c) The adoption and implementation of an integrated and multidimensional strategy for the promotion and protection of the right to development, accompanied by a significant enhancement of support from relevant United Nations bodies for that purpose;

(d) Provision of the appropriate assistance by the Secretariat and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to ensure that the promotion and protection of all human rights are guided by the principles of impartiality, objectivity and non-selectivity, in the spirit of constructive international dialogue and cooperation;

(e) Compliance by the Office of the High Commissioner with the paramount consideration of securing the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity, and with due regard to the importance of recruiting the staff on as wide a geographical basis as possible, bearing in mind that the principle of equitable geographical distribution is compatible with the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity;

(f) A significant increase in the recognition of economic, social and cultural rights and in activities for their protection, including the integration of economic, social and cultural rights as human rights into the organizations, agencies and financial and developmental institutions, the identification of indicators showing success in respecting those rights and the adoption of a communication procedure relating to non-compliance with economic, social and cultural rights;

(g) The adoption and progressive implementation of an improved treaty monitoring system dealing with multiple reporting obligations and based on a comprehensive national approach;

(h) The implementation of a strengthened system of special procedures based on harmonization and rationalization of work;

(i) The reinforcement of the United Nations as the unique worldwide forum for the discussion and resolution of human rights matters of international concern, with the participation of all relevant actors;

(j) The adoption of more efficient methods within the United Nations to promote and protect human rights, including by preventing human rights violations throughout the world and removing obstacles to the full realization of human rights;

(k) The implementation of a comprehensive United Nations programme to assist States, at their request, in developing and implementing national human rights plans of action strengthening, inter alia, national structures having an impact on democracy and the rule of law; to establish national institutions to give effect to the right to development and economic, social and cultural rights; and also to assist States, at their request, within the respective mandates of the Secretariat and the Office of the High Commissioner, in the process of ratifying United Nations human rights instruments;

(l) Fulfilment of the mandates given to the Secretariat for giving appropriate assistance, according to the resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human Rights, to treaty bodies, intergovernmental and expert bodies, as well as the existing relevant voluntary trust funds;

(m) The full integration of the human rights of women and the girl child into the activities of the United Nations system as a whole and its human rights machinery in particular;

(n) The implementation of effective measures to promote equality, dignity and tolerance, to fight racism and xenophobia, and to protect minorities, indigenous populations, migrant workers, the disabled and others, taking into account also the outcome of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, to be held in 2001;

(o) The establishment of effective programmes of education and public information and the strengthened contribution of non-governmental organizations, national institutions, grass-roots organizations and civil society in United Nations human rights activities at all levels, according to the legislative mandates in effect regarding those issues;

(p) The provision to States, United Nations bodies, experts and the academic community of high-quality research and analysis on human rights issues, including that dealing with emerging problems and the development of new standards and instruments.

Subprogramme 1
Right to development, research and analysis

Objective and strategy

19.4 The primary objective of this subprogramme is the promotion and protection of the right to development. In this regard, the objective will be to develop an integrated and multidimensional strategy for the implementation, coordination and promotion of the right to development in accordance with the Declaration on the Right to Development (resolution 41/128, annex) and subsequent mandates and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, aimed at facilitating action to be taken by relevant bodies of the United Nations system, including treaty bodies, international development and financial institutions and non-governmental organizations, for the implementation of the right to development as an integral part of fundamental human rights, ensuring the realization of the right to development across the human rights programme and by specialized agencies and United Nations treaty bodies; to promote national implementation of the right to development through coordination with State-appointed officials; to identify obstacles at the national and international levels; and to promote awareness about the content and importance of the right to development, including through information and educational activities.

19.5 With regard to research and analysis, the objective will be to strengthen respect for human rights by increasing knowledge, awareness and understanding of human rights issues through data collection, research and analysis. These objectives will be pursued within the framework of the indivisibility, interdependence and interrelatedness of all human rights and will be aimed at facilitating the implementation of standards, the work of treaty bodies, special rapporteurs and other bodies and the preparation of new standards; ensuring the recognition on the national and international levels of economic, social and cultural rights; promoting democracy and strengthening national human rights institutions and procedures for the rule of law; contributing to the elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and new forms of discrimination; strengthening the recognition of the human rights of women and children; and protecting vulnerable groups such as minorities, migrant workers and indigenous people.

Expected accomplishments

19.6 Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat would include:

(a) Wider integration and inclusion of the promotion and protection of the right to development across the human rights programme and the relevant programmes of work of the United Nations departments, offices and specialized agencies and those of major international organizations and forums related to this issue;

(b) A major strengthening of coordination for human rights across the United Nations system, leading to a comprehensive and integrated approach to the promotion and protection of human rights based on the contribution of each of the United Nations organs, bodies and specialized agencies whose activities deal with human rights and also based on improved inter-agency cooperation and coordination;

(c) Strengthened efforts that will contribute to the elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

(d) Enhanced awareness, knowledge and understanding of all human rights, including the right to development;

(e) Wider recognition of the rights of women, children and persons belonging to minorities, migrant workers, indigenous people and persons with disabilities, and strengthening the protection of vulnerable groups.

Indicators of achievement

19.7 Indicators of achievement are elements used as tools for determining, where possible, the extent to which the objectives and/or expected accomplishments have been achieved. Indicators of achievement of the Secretariat would include:

(a) The extent to which the right to development had been included in the work programmes of the departments and offices of the United Nations, the specialized agencies and other relevant intergovernmental organizations, providing compiled examples of concrete steps in this regard;

(b) The extent to which the mandates given to the Secretariat contained in resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human Rights have been fulfilled;

(c) The holding of seminars and workshops organized by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in accordance with the relevant resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human Rights, or in cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner, and the extent to which they contribute to the fulfilment of the objectives of this subprogramme;

(d) The extent to which the activities of the Office of the High Commissioner contribute to increasing knowledge, awareness and understanding in order to advance the full realization of the right to development, in accordance with the Declaration on the Right to Development;

(e) An increased number of visitors to the web site of the Office of the High Commissioner;

(f) The number of new publications of the Office of the High Commissioner as well as their distribution, and the assessment by users of their quality and usefulness.

Subprogramme 2
Supporting human rights bodies and organs

Objective and strategy

19.8 The objective is to support the United Nations human rights bodies and organs and to facilitate their deliberations by ensuring and enhancing their effective functioning; to contribute to increasing the knowledge, expanding the awareness and promoting the importance of all international human rights treaties; to improve existing procedures through rationalization and streamlining and to coordinate the participation of Governments, experts, specialized agencies, other international organizations, national institutions and non-governmental organizations in their work; and to ensure the analytical capacity of human rights treaty bodies for the review of State party reports under international treaties and for the processing of communications.

Expected accomplishments

19.9 Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat would include:

(a) The timely delivery of required and appropriate support to intergovernmental bodies, expert bodies and treaty bodies,. inter alia, in order to contribute to reducing the backlog in the consideration by the reviewing mechanisms of the States parties' reports;

(b) The timely delivery of required and appropriate support to intergovernmental bodies, expert bodies and treaty bodies, inter alia, in order to contribute to reducing the backlog in the consideration by the reviewing mechanisms of complaints.

Indicators of achievement

19.10 Measures of achievement of the Secretariat would include:

(a) The quality and timeliness of services provided by the Office of the High Commissioner;

(b) A reduction in the time lag between the submission of a State party report and its examination by the relevant treaty body;

(c) A reduction in the time lag between the submission of a complaint and its review, as appropriate, by the relevant mechanisms;

(d) The number of reports prepared by the Secretariat in accordance with resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human Rights, and the extent to which they are presented in a timely manner for the consideration of organs dealing with human rights, complying with the necessary six weeks before the opening of the issues under which reports are considered.

Subprogramme 3
Advisory services, technical cooperation, support to human rights fact-finding procedures and field activities

Objective and strategy

19.11 In the area of advisory services and technical cooperation, the objective is to assist countries, at their request, in developing comprehensive national plans of action to promote and protect human rights and to provide advice and support to specific projects to promote respect for human rights; to develop a comprehensive and coordinated United Nations programme to help States in building and strengthening national structures for human rights promotion and protection; and to raise awareness and promote specialized knowledge about human rights through the organization of training courses, seminars and workshops, and the production of a wide range of educational, training and information material.

19.12 In the area of providing support to fact-finding bodies, the objective is to ensure the effective functioning of human rights monitoring mechanisms by assisting special rapporteurs and representatives, experts and working groups mandated by policy-making bodies, including through the preparation of information regarding alleged violations and situations for review and the provision of support for missions and meetings; and to enhance the efficiency of action by policy-making bodies by providing analytical information on human rights situations.

19.13 With respect to field activities, the objective is to ensure the efficiency of field missions and presences through the maintenance of contacts with Governments, appropriate sectors of the United Nations system, international and regional organizations and others by supporting and developing such activities through the development of training programmes and materials for human rights field staff and training in human rights for the appropriate components of other United Nations field operations.

Expected accomplishments

19.14 Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat would include:

(a) Provision of advisory services and technical and financial assistance, at the request of the State concerned and, where appropriate, the regional human rights organizations, with a view to supporting actions and programmes in the field of human rights;

(b) Fulfilment of the mandates given to the Office of the High Commissioner in resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human Rights to support human rights monitoring mechanisms, such as special rapporteurs and representatives and expert and working groups mandated by policy-making bodies;

(c) Enhanced awareness, knowledge and understanding of all human rights, including the right to development.

Indicators of achievement

19.15 Indicators of achievement of the Secretariat would include:

(a) The number of seminars, workshops and training courses held or supported by the Office of the High Commissioner; and the number of persons trained, participants in seminars and workshops and fellowships granted, data on their geographical distribution and the extent to which they contribute to the fulfilment of the objectives of this subprogramme;

(b) The number of requests from Member States and, where appropriate, from the regional human rights organizations, received and fulfilled by the Office of the High Commissioner for the provision of advisory services and technical and financial assistance, with a view to supporting actions and programmes in the field of human rights;

(c) Timeliness, significance and relevance of the advisory services and technical cooperation.

Legislative mandates

Programme 19
Human rights

General Assembly resolutions

48/121	World Conference on Human Rights
48/141	High Commissioner for the promotion and protection of all human rights
53/166	Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action (subprogrammes 1 and 2)
54/138	Violence against women migrant workers (subprogrammes 1 and 2)
54/168	Respect for the principles of national sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of States in their electoral processes (subprogrammes 1 and 3)
54/169	Respect for the right to universal freedom of travel and the vital importance of family reunification (subprogrammes 1 and 2)
54/173	Strengthening the role of the United Nations in enhancing the effectiveness of the principle of periodic and genuine elections and the promotion of democratization (subprogrammes 1 and 3)
54/174	Strengthening United Nations action in the field of human rights through the promotion of international cooperation and the importance of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity
55/96	Promoting and consolidating democracy
55/101	Respect for the purposes and principles contained in the Charter of the United Nations to achieve international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms and in solving international problems of humanitarian character
55/102	Globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights
55/107	Promotion of a democratic and equitable international order

Economic and Social Council resolution

2000/22	Establishment of a Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

Economic and Social Council agreed conclusions

1998/2	Coordinated follow-up to and implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action

Commission on Human Rights resolutions

1994/95	World Conference on Human Rights (subprogrammes 1 and 2)
2000/73	Composition of the staff of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Subprogramme 1
Right to development, research and analysis

General Assembly resolutions

41/128	Declaration on the Right to Development
53/142	Strengthening of the rule of law
53/146	Human rights and extreme poverty
54/133	Traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls
54/134	International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women
54/135	Improvement of the situation of women in rural areas
54/137	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
54/141	Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action
54/148	The girl child
54/149	The rights of the child
54/150	International Decade of the World's Indigenous People
54/153	Measures to combat contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance
54/154	Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and the convening of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance
54/155	Universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination
54/159	Elimination of all forms of religious intolerance
54/160	Human rights and cultural diversity
54/162	Effective promotion of the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities
54/163	Human rights in the administration of justice
54/164	Human rights and terrorism
54/167	Protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons
54/172	Human rights and unilateral coercive measures
54/175	The right to development
54/181	Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights
55/66	Working towards the elimination of crimes against women committed in the name of honour

55/68	Elimination of all forms of violence against women, including crimes identified in the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"
55/86	Use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination
55/89	Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment
55/92	Protection of migrants
55/98	Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms
55/102	Globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights
55/103	Question of enforced or involuntary disappearances
55/111	Extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions

Economic and Social Council decision

1999/12	Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

Commission on Human Rights resolutions

1999/22	Effects on the full enjoyment of human rights of the economic adjustment policies arising from foreign debt and, in particular, on the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development
1999/25	Question of the realization in all countries of the economic, social and cultural rights contained in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and study of special problems which the developing countries face in their efforts to achieve these human rights
1999/34	Impunity
1999/40	Traffic in women and girls
1999/46	Contemporary forms of slavery
1999/61	Question of the death penalty
1999/65	Fundamental standards of humanity
2000/10	The right to food
2000/36	Question of arbitrary detention
2000/38	The right to freedom of opinion and expression
2000/46	Integrating the human rights of women throughout the United Nations system
2000/61	Human rights defenders
2000/62	Promotion of the right to a democratic and equitable international order

2000/82	Effects of structural adjustment policies and foreign debt on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights

Subprogramme 2
Supporting human rights bodies and organs

General Assembly resolutions

2106 A (XX)	International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
2200 (XXI)	International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
39/46	Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
44/25	Convention on the Rights of the Child
53/138	Effective implementation of international instruments on human rights, including reporting obligations under international instruments on human rights
54/157	International Covenants on Human Rights
55/88	International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families

Economic and Social Council resolutions and decision

1503 (XLVIII)	Procedure for dealing with communications relating to violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms
1979/36	Further promotion and encouragement of human rights and fundamental freedoms
1990/48	Enlargement of the Commission on Human Rights and further promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms
1999/256	Rationalization of the work of the Commission on Human Rights

Economic and Social Council agreed conclusions

1998/2	Coordinated follow-up to and implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action

Commission on Human Rights resolutions

2000/22	Cooperation with representatives of United Nations human rights bodies
2000/46	Integrating the human rights of women throughout the United Nations system

Subprogramme 3
Advisory services, technical cooperation, support to human rights fact-finding procedures and field activities

General Assembly resolutions

926 (X)	Advisory services in the field of human rights
53/148	Regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights
54/151	Use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination
54/161	United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995-2004, and public information activities in the field of human rights
54/176	National institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights
54/180	Human rights and mass exoduses

Economic and Social Council resolution

1235 (XLII)	Question of the violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including policies of racial discrimination and segregation and of apartheid in all countries, with particular reference to colonial and other dependent countries and territories

Commission on Human Rights resolutions

1995/53	Advisory services and the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights
1998/74	Human rights and thematic procedures

Programme 20
Humanitarian assistance

Overall orientation

20.1 The overall purpose of the programme is to ensure the timely, coherent and coordinated response of the international community to disasters and emergencies, to promote natural disaster reduction and to facilitate the smooth transition from emergency relief to rehabilitation and development. The legislative authority and mandate for this programme are derived from General Assembly resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991, in which the Assembly reaffirmed the guiding principles of humanitarian assistance and reinforced earlier decisions and resolutions adopted by it and the Economic and Social Council concerning humanitarian assistance and the leadership role of the Secretary-General in responding to natural disasters and humanitarian emergencies. The Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs is responsible for the implementation of this programme and the achievement of its objectives.

20.2 The strategy for implementing the programme is based on the need for the development and promotion of a common policy on humanitarian issues for the United Nations system and its partners; the mobilization and coordination of assistance in complex emergencies; advocacy of humanitarian issues; the promotion of natural disaster reduction; the mobilization and coordination of assistance for disasters; and the availability of timely information on emergencies and natural disasters to facilitate global humanitarian assistance.

Subprogramme 1
Policy and analysis

Objective

20.3 The objective of this subprogramme is to ensure an effective international response to situations calling for humanitarian assistance.

Strategy

20.4 Within the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, substantive responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in the Policy Development and Advocacy Branch and the Inter-Agency Standing Committee and Executive Committee on Humanitarian Affairs secretariat. The Branch will develop coherent policies for the United Nations system on humanitarian assistance issues, including those on access to and protection of the civilian victims of armed conflict and natural disasters and on security for humanitarian staff and supplies. It will also support and promote the efforts of Governments of affected countries, upon their request, and those of other agencies, with the approval of the Government concerned, to assist and protect internally displaced persons. Support will be given to the planning of humanitarian assistance activities and humanitarian components of peacekeeping operations as well as to the establishment of effective planning capacity for the management of the transition from relief to reconstruction and development. In addition, efforts will be made to ensure that lessons learned from past experience are applied to the strengthening of future humanitarian assistance activities. The Inter-Agency Standing Committee secretariat will provide support to the Committee in its efforts to ensure a well-coordinated international response to humanitarian crises and should conduct regular briefings with Member States on its activities.

Expected accomplishments

20.5 Expected accomplishments would include improvement of the coordinated delivery of humanitarian assistance and the adoption by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee of policies for the effective implementation of country-specific arrangements.

Indicators of achievement

20.6 Indicators of achievement would include more timely delivery of humanitarian assistance by the United Nations system and strengthening of agency coordination and cooperation on country-specific issues through the Inter-Agency Standing Committee.

Subprogramme 2
Complex emergencies

Objective

20.7 The objective of this subprogramme is to ensure a coherent, timely and effective response by the United Nations system and other relevant organizations to complex emergencies.

Strategy

20.8 Within the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, substantive responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in the Complex Emergency Response Branch and the Emergency Liaison Branch. The Complex Emergency Response Branch will provide support to resident and humanitarian coordinators in the field to ensure effective field-based coordination; implement, where appropriate, field-based strategic planning for the common humanitarian assistance plans of the United Nations; and draw up appeals to solicit support from the donor community. The Emergency Liaison Branch will offer the United Nations system information and advice on a timely basis with respect to humanitarian assistance activities, in strict conformity with the principles of humanity, neutrality and impartiality as contained in General Assembly resolution 46/182. If the provision of humanitarian assistance is a mandated task of a United Nations peacekeeping operation, the humanitarian assistance and peacekeeping components should be coordinated to ensure that they are not working at cross-purposes and that the impartiality of humanitarian assistance is ensured.

Expected accomplishments

20.9 Expected accomplishments would include a more timely and better-coordinated response and the provision of more support to countries in or emerging from civil crisis and an increase in funding for humanitarian activities.

Indicators of achievement

20.10 Indicators of achievement would include improved response time for complex emergencies, improved management of field coordination units and increased response by the donor community to the consolidated appeals for complex emergencies.

Subprogramme 3
Natural disaster reduction

Objective

20.11 The objective of this subprogramme is to reduce vulnerability to natural disasters and to ensure an effective international response to natural disasters through the implementation of coherent policies in this regard.

Strategy

20.12 Substantive responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in the secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, which is under the direct authority of the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs. Pursuant to the provisions of General Assembly resolution 54/219 of 22 December 1999, the secretariat would support the Inter-Agency Task Force for Disaster Reduction, whose mandate is to undertake a review during the biennium 2000-2001 of the future arrangements for disaster reduction. The Task Force would provide expert advice to the secretariat and convene ad hoc meetings of experts on issues related to disaster reduction.

20.13 The secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction would serve as the focal point for the coordination of strategies and programmes for disaster reduction and ensure synergy between these and the socio-economic and humanitarian domains. It would also serve as a clearing house for information exchange and dissemination, including the dissemination of a list of organizations of the United Nations system and of impartial humanitarian organizations that provide emergency humanitarian response to natural disasters at all levels, with updated inventories of the resources available to help deal with natural disasters. It will also backstop the activities of national committees. As an interdisciplinary forum for advancing disaster reduction and implementing the International Strategy, the Task Force would serve as a forum within the United Nations system for devising strategies and policies for the reduction of natural hazards, identify gaps in disaster reduction policies and programmes and recommend remedial action. The priorities, as identified by the Task Force, include early warning of natural disasters, capacity-building in developing countries, mainstreaming disaster reduction into sustainable development and applying science and technology to disaster prevention.

20.14 In addition, activities under this subprogramme would focus on increasing public awareness of the risks that natural, technological and environmental hazards pose to modern societies. In that regard, it would endeavour to obtain commitments by public authorities to reduce the risks to people and their livelihoods, to the social and economic infrastructure and to environmental resources. The subprogramme would also engage public participation at all levels of implementation so as to create disaster-resistant communities through increased partnerships and expanded risk reduction networks at all levels. Efforts would also be directed towards strengthening the operational capacities of developing countries in the fields of disaster prevention, mitigation and preparedness through international development cooperation and technical cooperation, in particular through the activities of the United Nations Development Programme.

Expected accomplishments

20.15 Expected accomplishments would include an increased capacity of developing countries for preparedness in disaster prevention and mitigation, including an increase in participation in disaster reduction-related training and seminars, expanded scientific and technical knowledge about reducing vulnerability to natural disaster, increased public awareness of the risks associated with natural, technological and environmental hazards and better mobilization of international support to help in the prevention and management of natural disasters as well as in post-disaster rehabilitation.

Indicators of achievement

20.16 Indicators of achievement would include an increase in the number of countries having the technical capacity to deal with disaster prevention and mitigation, improved early-warning processes for natural, technological and environmental disasters, an increase in the number of risk-reduction networks, increased participation in training seminars on disaster prevention and enhanced mobilization of international support to help in the prevention and management of natural disasters as well as in post-disaster rehabilitation.

Subprogramme 4
Disaster relief

Objective

20.17 The primary objective of this subprogramme is to facilitate the timely delivery of disaster relief assistance, upon the request of the Member States concerned, to victims of natural disasters and environmental emergencies, including technological accidents.

Strategy

20.18 Within the Office, the substantive responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in the Disaster Response Branch. The Branch will continue to aim at the timely mobilization and coordination of international assistance to countries affected by natural or other sudden-onset disasters through strengthened cooperation between assisting and recipient countries, agencies and organizations providing humanitarian relief. The existing emergency response system will be strengthened through: (a) disaster response preparedness, including standby mechanisms; (b) needs assessment and coordination tools, such as the United Nations disaster assessment and coordination teams, the application of telecommunications technology and improved national and regional capacities; (c) the provision of support to Member States and international response networks to ensure improved cooperation and coordination in crisis management; (d) the application of analyses of natural disasters and lessons learned; (e) the development of capacity to respond to environmental emergencies and industrial accidents; and (f) coordination, on a more timely basis, of international search-and-rescue efforts. Initiatives will be also taken to reinforce services to field offices through greater participation in the inter-agency structure, training initiatives in disaster management and the regional disaster response advisers. The Branch will continue its efforts to encourage donor support through informational meetings and post-mission briefings, as well as through the preparation of inter-agency appeals, in cooperation with operational agencies, following major disasters with a view to facilitating the transition from relief to rehabilitation and development.

Expected accomplishments

20.19 Expected accomplishments would include a more timely alleviation of the suffering caused by natural disasters and environmental emergencies, including technological accidents and increased capacity of developing countries to deal with disaster relief.

Indicators of achievement

20.20 Indicators of achievement would include more timely delivery of assistance to victims of natural disasters and environmental emergencies, including technological accidents, more timely and better coordination of responses to the countries affected by disasters, increased participation in training seminars on disaster management, improved field and regional cooperation in disaster management and increased donor responses to inter-agency appeals.

Subprogramme 5
Humanitarian emergency information and advocacy

Objective

20.21 The objective of the subprogramme is to facilitate decision-making of the international and humanitarian community on relief, logistics, funding and contingency planning and to increase support for and awareness of humanitarian assistance issues.

Strategy

20.22 Within the Office, substantive responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in the Information Management Services Branch. The Branch will provide time-critical and reliable information on unfolding emergencies and natural disasters for global humanitarian assistance. The Branch will also provide information technology support for the Office by utilizing the latest information technologies to facilitate access to information. It will maximize the reach of publications to the humanitarian community. It will maintain and strengthen the Office's web sites, including ReliefWeb/OCHA-Online, the Integrated Regional Information Network (IRIN) and other field-based web sites so as to ensure the timely availability of emergency information. The information available to users will be further enhanced through partnerships with other members of the humanitarian community for information sharing, coordination and standardization. With regard to humanitarian emergencies, the Branch will provide appropriate early information in regard to preventive and preparedness measures. It will continue to provide secretariat and technical support to the United Nations inter-agency framework for coordination teams and to assist United Nations country teams in the preparation of contingency plans.

Expected accomplishments

20.23 Expected accomplishments would include more timely provision of relief, logistics, funding and contingency planning, in view of the expanded access to and increased utilization of timely information on emergency situations, an increased level of preparedness to deal with emergencies and greater understanding of humanitarian issues.

Indicators of achievement

20.24 Indicators of achievement would include an improvement in emergency response time because of the availability of information and an increase in the number of users of information made available through ReliefWeb, OCHA-Online and IRIN.

Legislative mandates

Programme 20
Humanitarian assistance

General Assembly resolutions

46/182	Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian emergency assistance of the United Nations
47/120	An Agenda for Peace: preventive diplomacy and related matters
53/192	Triennial policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
54/95	Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations
54/96	Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: special economic assistance to individual countries or regions
54/192	Safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel

Economic and Social Council agreed conclusions

1999/1	Special economic, humanitarian and disaster relief assistance

Security Council resolution

1265 (1999)

Subprogramme 1
Policy and analysis

General Assembly resolutions

52/12 A and B	Renewing the United Nations: a programme for reform
52/171	Participation of volunteers, "White Helmets", in activities of the United Nations in the field of humanitarian relief, rehabilitation and technical cooperation for development
54/98	Participation of volunteers, "While Helmets", in activities of the United Nations in the field of humanitarian relief, rehabilitation and technical cooperation for development
54/167	Protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons

Subprogramme 2
Complex emergencies

General Assembly resolutions

52/172	Strengthening of international cooperation and coordination of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster
52/211 A	Emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan
52/211 B	The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security
54/97	Strengthening of international cooperation and coordination of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster

Subprogramme 3
Natural disaster reduction

General Assembly resolutions

54/219	International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction: successor arrangements
54/220	International cooperation to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon
54/233	International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters from relief to development

Economic and Social Council resolutions

1999/46	International cooperation to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon
1999/63	International decade for natural disaster reduction: successor arrangements

Subprogramme 4
Disaster relief

General Assembly resolution

54/30	Emergency response to disasters

Programme 21
Protection and assistance to refugees

Overall orientation

21.1 The overall objective of this programme is to provide international protection to refugees and others of concern to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and to seek permanent solutions to their problems, as well as to ensure the provision of humanitarian assistance to them. Assistance is one aspect of international protection and is a means of facilitating it. It is rooted in and grows out of the protective nature of the work of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). In its operational activities, UNHCR seeks to integrate protection and humanitarian assistance. The pursuit of durable solutions to the problems of refugees is the heart of protection and the principal purpose of this programme.

21.2 The mandate for the programme is contained in General Assembly resolutions 319 A (IV), by which the Assembly established UNHCR as from 1 January 1951, and 428 (V), which contains the statute of the Office. The Assembly has also called upon the High Commissioner to ensure that returnees receive assistance to help in their sustainable reintegration, as well as to monitor their safety and well-being on return (see resolution 40/118). In addition, on the basis of specific requests from the Secretary-General or the competent principal organs of the United Nations, and with the consent of the State concerned, UNHCR provides humanitarian assistance and protection to internally displaced persons (see resolution 48/116). As regards the assistance activities of UNHCR, the basic provisions of the statute were expanded by the Assembly in its resolution 832 (IX).

21.3 The international legal basis for the protection of refugees finds its principal expression in the 1951 Convention and the 1967 Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees. In addition, there are a number of other international instruments of relevance, such as the 1989 Convention on the Rights of the Child. At the regional level, there are also important instruments and declarations, such as the Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa of the Organization of African Unity, the Cartagena Declaration on Refugees, adopted by the Colloquium on the International Protection of Refugees in Central America, Mexico and Panama, and the San José Declaration on Refugees and Displaced Persons.

21.4 UNHCR is responsible for the implementation of the programme.

21.5 The overall strategy that will be followed consists of a range of activities undertaken in cooperation with States and various organizations and pursued with a continued strong emphasis on improving efficiency, transparency and accountability, especially through the development of an integrated operations management system. Notable among them are the following:

(a) The pursuit of comprehensive strategies, in cooperation with States and organizations, aimed at both mitigating and preventing the causes of forced population movements as well as finding solutions to them when they occur;

(b) The ongoing development of a legal regime of international protection, in particular through the promotion of accessions to international and regional instruments relating to the status of refugees or otherwise benefiting refugees, the effective implementation of refugee rights and the promotion and dissemination of refugee law and protection principles;

(c) The further development of contingency planning, emergency preparedness and response capabilities, in coordination with other organizations, so as to respond effectively and efficiently to situations of forced human displacement;

(d) Ensuring that UNHCR and its partners provide humanitarian assistance in an environmentally sensitive manner and in such a way that it is supportive of and reinforces development initiatives to the extent possible;

(e) Ensuring that UNHCR and its partners incorporate into all aspects of the delivery of humanitarian assistance the particular needs and capacities of refugee women and elderly refugees and the special needs of refugee children and adolescents;

(f) The further development, in consultation with concerned parties, of options to ensure the security and the civilian and humanitarian character of refugee camps and settlements as well as security in areas of return and to explore further concrete ways of enhancing the safety and security of UNHCR staff and other humanitarian workers working with refugees and returnees. In this regard, due consideration should be given to the obligation of United Nations officials, in the conduct of their duties, to observe fully both the laws and regulations of Member States and their duties and responsibilities to the Organization;

(g) The systematic follow-up to relevant recommendations in the plans of action emanating from recent and upcoming international conferences;

(h) The involvement as soon as possible of other humanitarian organizations, both national and international, in providing humanitarian assistance for refugees and other persons of concern.

21.6 The programme is under the intergovernmental guidance of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, in accordance with its terms of reference as contained in General Assembly resolution 1166 (XII).

Subprogramme 1
International protection

Objective

21.7 The objective of this subprogramme is to provide international protection to refugees and to others of concern to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and to seek solutions to their problems.

Strategy

21.8 This subprogramme falls under the overall responsibility of the Department of International Protection. The overall objective is multifaceted and will be pursued in a number of ways. Further accessions to the 1951 Convention and the 1967 Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees as well as to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness will be promoted. The monitoring of the observance by States of internationally accepted standards for the treatment of refugees, especially the fundamental principles of asylum and non-refoulement, will contribute to ensuring the effective implementation of refugee rights by the States concerned. This will involve working especially for the establishment by States of fair and efficient procedures for the determination of refugee status or, as appropriate, other mechanisms to ensure that persons in need of international protection are identified and granted such protection, and to ensure that all persons seeking international protection are granted access to those procedures and mechanisms. To ensure a more effective response to the protection needs of refugee women, children and adolescents and the elderly, a wider dissemination of the respective policies and guidelines relating to refugee women, children and adolescents and the elderly will be undertaken, and a more concerted effort will be made to ensure their implementation. The promotion and dissemination of refugee law and protection principles, particularly through training, in cooperation with non-governmental organizations, academic institutions and other relevant organizations of governmental and non-governmental officials will be another means of achieving the stated objective. In addition, when, on the basis of a specific request of the Secretary-General or a competent principal organ of the United Nations, and with the consent of the State concerned, UNHCR provides protection to internally displaced persons, it will do so on the basis of criteria enumerated in the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and in close collaboration with other concerned entities and agencies. To revitalize old and build new partnerships in support of the international refugee protection system, efforts to promote collaboration on refugee protection with a wide range of actors, including the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, will be continued. In order to find permanent solutions to the problems of refugees, efforts will be made to promote the development of more comprehensive and regional approaches to resolving refugee situations and other forms of involuntary displacement, as appropriate.

Expected accomplishments

21.9 The expected accomplishments would include:

(a) Increased number of accessions to relevant conventions and protocols;

(b) Improved observation by States of internationally accepted standards for the treatment of refugees, especially the fundamental principles of asylum and non-refoulement;

(c) A more timely and effective response to the protection needs of refugee women, children and the elderly;

(d) Increased use of comprehensive and regional approaches to preventing and resolving refugee situations and other forms of involuntary displacement;

(e) Progress towards finding durable solutions to the many instances of forced displacement.

Indicators of achievement

21.10 The indicators of achievement would include:

(a) The number of additional accessions to the relevant legal instruments;

(b) The number of refugees and other persons of concern returning from situations of forced displacement;

(c) A reduction in the number of cases brought to the attention of UNHCR of people seeking refugee status who were not treated in accordance with internationally accepted standards or were subject to refoulement;

(d) A reduction in the number of refugee women and children and elderly refugees whose basic protection needs were not met.

Subprogramme 2
Assistance

Objective

21.11 The objective of the subprogramme is to ensure the provision of humanitarian assistance to those of concern to the Office of the High Commissioner from the outset of an emergency until such time as the beneficiaries have been successfully reintegrated in their communities of origin, while at the same time paying particular attention to the capacity and needs of the priority categories of refugee women, children and adolescents and the elderly.

Strategy

21.12 The subprogramme is under the responsibility of the Department of Operations, which embraces the various regional operations. UNHCR will engage in a number of strategies. It is concerned that assistance, whenever possible, should be delivered in such a way that it involves the recipients and taps the potential of refugee women and elderly refugees and that it is given in such a way that it reinforces rather than undermines local capacity to cope. In addition, UNHCR will work assiduously with all stakeholders to bridge the gap in the level of assistance provided to refugees in the different regions of the world. Another concern of UNHCR is that assistance programmes should not interfere with or work against the return, as soon as feasible, to a process of sustainable development. UNHCR aims to provide humanitarian assistance in an environmentally sound manner, consistent with the environmental policy adopted by its Executive Committee at its forty-sixth session (1995), and as reflected in related operational guidelines.

21.13 A particularly important consideration during the period of the plan will be to enhance further the emergency preparedness and response mechanisms of UNHCR, taking into account the recent independent evaluation of UNHCR performance during the Kosovo operation; this will be done in close consultation with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat and other agencies. UNHCR will also develop further specific preparedness measures at the country level, in particular through joint contingency planning in-country with States and operational partners, including provision for the integration of local resources into the planned response mechanisms. UNHCR will also review its operational cooperation with the military in the provision of emergency assistance, especially with regard to services for which they can add value in terms of technical and extensive organizational capacity in large-scale humanitarian emergencies. To strengthen further the effectiveness and efficiency of its humanitarian assistance, UNHCR will also establish, during the period of the plan, collaborative ventures with agencies having complementary mandates or competencies. In particular, memoranda of understanding or framework agreements with relevant United Nations organizations will be reviewed to ensure greater operational predictability. UNHCR will work to maximize the involvement of other humanitarian organizations, both national and international, in the provision of humanitarian assistance to refugees and other persons of concern, as appropriate. Furthermore, the Office will continue to give effect to the Declaration and Plan of Action adopted at the global UNHCR/non-governmental organization Partnership in Action Conference (Oslo, 1994), and to improve the partnership process with non-governmental organizations. UNHCR will also continue to involve its implementing partners, both non-governmental and governmental, in programme planning and ensure that they receive the appropriate training and support to comply with conditions associated with the implementation of projects on behalf of UNHCR, especially as the new operations management system is deployed in the field.

21.14 UNHCR will improve its procedures for monitoring progress in regard to the mainstreaming of programme priorities established by the Executive Committee, namely refugee women, refugee children and adolescents, the elderly and the environment. UNHCR believes that a concerted effort is necessary to ensure more effective implementation of its policies relating to refugee women and children in the field, even in the early phases of an emergency. Greater attention will be given to the formulation of programmes based on gender analysis and a clear identification of age-related needs.

21.15 The Office feels that it is important to ensure, in consultation with host Governments, the security and the civilian and humanitarian character of refugee camps and refugee-populated areas, as well as the security of returnee areas. In consultation with States, which have the primary responsibility in this matter, and with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat and other relevant bodies, UNHCR will develop further the concept of security in refugee and returnee areas and determine a range of concrete measures whereby it might contribute, depending on the situation, to the achievement of such security. To anchor the return of those forcibly displaced to their communities of origin, the Office will continue to ensure linkages between broader development efforts and humanitarian assistance. In that regard, UNHCR, when formulating solutions, will work closely with development entities and international financial institutions to ensure a comprehensive approach to programme planning.

Expected accomplishments

21.16 Greater efficiency and effectiveness will mark all stages of the UNHCR programme cycle. The expected accomplishments would include:

(a) Strengthening of local capacity to cope with refugee situations;

(b) Improved emergency preparedness and response mechanisms, including preparedness measures at the country level;

(c) Improved operational cooperation with the relevant host Governments and increased collaborative ventures with intergovernmental agencies having complementary mandates and with non-governmental organizations, with UNHCR strengthening cooperation with these organizations in providing humanitarian assistance where appropriate;

(d) Progress in regard to the mainstreaming of programme priorities established by the Executive Committee, namely refugee women, refugee children and adolescents, the elderly and the environment;

(e) Further development of the concept of security in refugee and returnee areas.

Indicators of achievement

21.17 The indicators of achievement would include:

(a) Specific measurement instruments that would be formulated to achieve security in refugee and returnee areas;

(b) Procedures that would be established or improved to achieve progress in the mainstreaming of the programme priorities established by the Executive Committee;

(c) Enhancement of the emergency response capacity of UNHCR measured against a plan of action to be established by the Executive Committee;

(d) The number of refugees assisted and repatriated.

Legislative mandates

Subprogramme 1
International protection

Conventions and conference declarations

Convention relating to the Status of Refugees (1951) and its Protocol (1967)

Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons (1954)

Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (1961)

Organization of African Unity Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa (1969)

Cartagena Declaration on Refugees (1984)

Convention on the Rights of the Child (General Assembly resolution 44/25) (1989)

San José Declaration on Refugees and Displaced Persons (1994)

General Assembly resolution

54/146	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Executive Committee report

Report of the fiftieth session of the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme (A/AC.96/928)

Subprogramme 2
Assistance

Security Council resolution

1208 (1998) concerning the situation in refugee camps in Africa

Executive Committee report

Report of the fiftieth session of the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme (A/AC.96/928)

Conference declaration

Partnership in Action Declaration and Plan of Action (Oslo, 1994)

Memoranda of understanding

Memorandum of Understanding with the United Nation's Children's Fund (1996)

Memorandum of Understanding with the World Food Programme (1997)

Framework Agreement for Operational Cooperation between UNHCR and the United Nations Development Programme (1997)

Framework for Cooperation between UNHCR and the World Bank (1998)

Programme 22
Palestine refugees

Overall orientation

22.1 The overall purpose of this programme is to assist the Palestine refugee population living in Jordan, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic and the West Bank and Gaza Strip until there is a resolution of the Palestine refugee issue. That assistance involves the provision of essential education, health and relief and social services to eligible Palestine refugees. The programme also includes the provision of emergency relief assistance to the beneficiary population and responses to requests from the Palestinian Authority, host Governments and the Secretary-General as they arise, commensurate with available resources.

22.2 The mandate for the programme, which is the responsibility of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), is General Assembly resolution 302 (IV) of 8 December 1949, which established UNRWA as a separate entity within the United Nations system. The mandate of UNRWA has been renewed repeatedly, most recently by the Assembly in its resolution 53/46 of 3 December 1998, when it was extended until June 2002. In its resolution 3331 (XXIX) B of 17 December 1974, the Assembly decided that, with effect from 1 January 1975, the expenses for salaries of international staff in the service of UNRWA that would otherwise be a charge on voluntary contributions should be financed by the regular budget of the United Nations for the duration of the Agency's mandate.

22.3 UNRWA reports directly to the General Assembly. Overall review of UNRWA programmes and activities is undertaken by the 10-member Advisory Commission, which includes representatives of the Agency's major donors and host Governments. The Advisory Commission has a working relationship with the Palestine Liberation Organization.

22.4 The Agency's concern is for the self-reliance of the refugee community. The long-term viability of its programmes and sustainability are key themes of its activities. Where feasible and desirable, UNRWA will continue to incorporate cost-sharing and self-support measures *into its regular programmes* in order to ensure the efficient use of resources and to support participation by the beneficiary population in the provision of Agency services.

Objective

22.5 The objective of the programme is:

(a) To meet the basic educational needs of Palestine refugees and to enhance their educational and employment opportunities;

(b) To meet the Palestine refugees' basic health needs and to improve the overall state of health of their community;

(c) To support those Palestine refugees who suffer the greatest socio-economic disadvantage and to facilitate their self-reliance;

(d) To improve the quality of life of small and micro-entrepreneurs, sustain jobs, decrease unemployment and provide income-generating opportunities to needy men and women through the provision of credit;

(e) To improve infrastructure and socio-economic conditions in the Agency's five areas of operation.

Strategy

22.6 The overall strategy for meeting the programme objectives will involve the provision of:

(a) Education services, including general, vocational/technical and teacher education for Palestine refugees, within the framework of the prescribed curricula of the host Governments and the Palestinian Authority, in accordance with the needs of the refugees and their identity and cultural heritage and consistent with the standards of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization;

(b) Health services to protect, preserve and promote the health status of registered Palestine refugees and to meet their basic health needs, consistent with the basic principles and concepts of the World Health Organization as well as with the standards achieved by the public health sectors in the Agency's areas of operation;

(c) Relief and social services in pursuit of a policy of developmental social welfare towards service facilitation and promotion of self-reliance among the Palestine refugee community, to meet their needs, maintain a reasonable standard of existence and improve their capacity to become self-reliant.

22.7 Under its project implementation programme, UNRWA anticipates continuing to undertake projects to improve infrastructure and socio-economic conditions in its five areas of operation, in accordance with the needs of the refugee population and to the extent permitted by donor funds. Projects are currently an integral part of the Agency's programme of activities. They are the means by which it covers nearly all of its capital costs (school construction, upgrading of health centres, etc.), as well as various key service-related non-recurrent costs (environmental health improvements, rehabilitation of shelters, etc.). They also enable UNRWA to supplement its regular budget allocations in key areas such as hospitalization.

22.8 Under the income-generation programme, UNRWA will maintain the best practices of the microfinance industry by adhering to the standards established for the industry. It will also attempt to achieve international standards of efficiency and outreach in a way that provides cost-effective services to clients in a sustainable manner.

22.9 UNRWA has continuously adapted its role and services in keeping with the needs of the refugees and the changing environment in which it operates. In its long history in the area, the Agency has demonstrated a capacity to adapt and enhance its programmes as required to cope with developments in the region, and it stands ready to continue to do so in accordance with the mandate it receives from the General Assembly.

Expected accomplishments

22.10 Expected accomplishments would include:

(a) Improvement of the quality of education provided to the Palestine refugee population at all levels, including maintaining an environment conducive to learning through upgrading and constructing facilities and enhancing the skills and competencies of the Agency's teaching and training staff;

(b) Improvement of the overall state of health of the Palestine refugee population and reduction of environmental health problems in their camps;

(c) Reduced dependence of Palestine refugees on relief and social service assistance in meeting their basic needs, in maintaining a reasonable standard of living and in improving their capacity to become self-reliant;

(d) Expansion of the Agency's income-generation programme;

(e) Improved infrastructure and socio-economic conditions in the Agency's five areas of operation: Jordan, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic, the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Indicators of achievement

22.11 Indicators of achievement would include:

(a) The maintenance of relatively high pupil pass rates and low pupil dropout rates in basic education as compared with institutions run by host authorities;

(b) The adaptation and improvement of course content and curriculum in vocational training institutions to meet changing market conditions;

(c) Response to changes in demand for education facilities in keeping with demographic and other factors;

(d) The number of additional educational facilities or other infrastructural facilities constructed or renovated;

(e) A reduction in infant mortality rates;

(f) The maintenance of high immunization rates;

(g) An increased percentage of shelters with safe indoor water facilities and shelters connected to proper sewage facilities;

(h) The number of individuals belonging to certain marginalized groups within the Palestine refugee community whose socio-economic status had improved;

(i) The number of participants in the income-generation programme;

(j) The number of projects completed.

Legislative mandates

Programme 22
Palestine refugees

General Assembly resolutions

302 (IV)	Assistance to Palestine refugees
53/46	
54/69	

Programme 23
Public information

Overall orientation

23.1 The overall purpose of the programme is to increase awareness and understanding of the work and purposes of the United Nations among peoples of the world. In order to help build broad-based global public support for the Organization's goals, issues of concern to the international community, including those addressed by major international conferences and the special sessions of the General Assembly, are highlighted. The mandates for the programme are provided by the General Assembly, initially in its resolution 13 (I) of 13 February 1946, and subsequently in resolutions on questions relating to information, the most recent one being Assembly resolutions 54/82 A and B. Within the Secretariat, substantive responsibility for the programme is vested in the Department of Public Information.

23.2 The programme strategy is based on the premise that public information and communications should be placed at the heart of the strategic management of the United Nations and that a culture of communications should permeate all levels of the Organization as a means of fully informing the peoples of the world of the aims and activities of the United Nations. By enhancing public awareness and understanding of the goals and ideals of the United Nations, the Organization will be able to promote universal support for its objectives. To that end, emphasis will be placed on publicizing effectively and in a timely manner the activities of the Organization and the relevance of its work to the daily lives and concerns of people everywhere through the main target audiences, such as the media, governmental and non-governmental organizations, educational institutions, business and professional organizations and other segments of civil society. In order to contribute to bridging the gap between developing and developed countries in the field of public information and communications, particular attention will be given to areas of special interest to developing countries, and, where appropriate, to countries with economies in transition. In particular, attention will be given to the special needs of African countries and the least developed countries, keeping in mind that most developing countries are not fully benefiting from the information revolution and that the information technology gap is widening.

23.3 In order to project an image of the Organization as an open and transparent public institution, emphasis will be placed on the continuing development of a culture of communications throughout the Organization. Partnerships will be strengthened at the Headquarters and field levels, which is essential to enable the Department to define the themes to be highlighted during the period of the medium-term plan and to coordinate the public information activities of the Organization with a view to presenting a unified image. Information and communications plans and campaigns will be implemented in collaboration with departments and offices to publicize the work of the Organization in their respective sectors. Cooperation among all organizations of the United Nations system will also be strengthened. Cooperation and partnerships with redisseminators will be pursued at all levels, both at Headquarters and in the field. The various elements of the system will work together in a more news-centred, media-friendly, multimedia operation, providing information directly to interested mass media in all Member States, including through the network of United Nations information centres, services and offices worldwide.

23.4 Increased use will be made of the latest technology, in both the traditional and electronic media, including the Internet, to deliver news directly and instantaneously to the media worldwide. Particular attention will be given to tailoring the news disseminated to different regions, bearing in mind their technological capacity.

23.5 Every effort will be made to ensure that publications and other information services of the Secretariat, including the United Nations web site, contain comprehensive, objective and equitable information about the issues before the Organization. Editorial independence, impartiality, accuracy, timeliness, non-selectivity and full compliance with resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly will be observed.

23.6 The Committee on Information provides overall guidance to the Department in its implementation of the programme.

Subprogramme 1
Promotional services

Objective

23.7 The objective of the subprogramme is to promote awareness of the central role of the United Nations and its relevance to the lives of peoples everywhere in addressing the challenges facing humankind.

Strategy

23.8 Within the Department of Public Information, responsibility for implementing the subprogramme lies primarily with the Public Affairs Division, which is assisted by the Office of the Under-Secretary-General and the network of United Nations information centres and services. The strategy is to manage the public image of the Organization effectively and to stimulate the development of a unified vision of the United Nations system at work. In this context, the Department will work closely with other substantive departments of the United Nations and with the organizations of the United Nations system to develop thematic information campaigns on priority issues of concern to the international community and to implement them at the international, regional and national levels. In particular, the campaigns will deal with peace and security, including building a culture of peace and non-violence; economic and social development, including eradicating poverty, combating racism and promoting human rights and self-determination; and the question of Palestine, as well as multilateral development issues, disarmament, eradication of the AIDS pandemic, dialogue among civilizations and natural disasters.

23.9 To mobilize support for its information campaigns, partnerships with key constituencies, including the media, non-governmental organizations, educational institutions, professional and business organizations and other segments of civil society, will be strengthened in accordance with the relevant decisions of the General Assembly. The network of information centres will also strengthen and expand partnerships with civil society at the national and local levels. The centres will forge closer links with educational organizations to reach students, including through the use of the Internet and videoconferencing where available. Special attention will be given to developing the CyberSchoolBus, the young people's segment of the United Nations web site, and transforming it into a locale where young people and teachers alike can converge for the purpose of facilitating teaching and learning about the United Nations and its activities through interactive web pages.

23.10 Direct outreach to the general public will be provided, inter alia, through the traditional means of publication, through the United Nations web site and through an informative experience for visitors to Headquarters and the offices at Geneva, Nairobi and Vienna. In order to convey the Organization's message to as wide an audience as possible, the six official languages and, to the extent possible, local languages at information centres, will be used in promotional activities.

23.11 Promotional services will include the issuance of public information materials, including booklets, pamphlets, fact sheets, wall charts, information kits and press releases; the creation of special pages on the United Nations web site; the holding of press conferences and briefings on United Nations activities; the organization of special events, such as the observance of United Nations commemorative days and years, round tables for journalists and editors, seminars and workshops; the training of broadcasters and journalists from developing countries and countries with economies in transition; and the organization of internship programmes. The Department will ensure the appropriate use of information materials and the continuous refinement of the activities aimed at promoting the work of the Organization. To accomplish this, there will be a regular, systematic evaluation and review of information materials and activities in view of the specific objectives for which they were designed. Electronic, audio and video technology will also be utilized. Exhibits, guided tours and lectures will be provided to highlight the work of the Organization.

Expected accomplishments

23.12 The public's understanding of and interest in the goals and objectives of the Organization would be enhanced, and public support for the work of the Organization would be strengthened; stronger partnerships between the Organization and various institutions of civil society would be created; faster and more effective flow of information would be accomplished through greater use of the latest communications technology, including the Internet; and partnerships would be enhanced within the United Nations system and with organizations and institutions outside the system.

Indicators of achievement

23.13 Indicators of achievement would include an increase in the coverage of United Nations activities by newspapers, radio, television and relevant Internet sites worldwide and in the level of interest shown by the target audience; an increase in the number of requests for and enquiries about the promotional products and services; an increase in the number of visitors to the United Nations web site; and an increase in the number of visitors to United Nations premises under the guided tour programme.

Subprogramme 2
Information services

Objective

23.14 The objective of this subprogramme is to increase the interest and access of news organizations and media to up-to-date news and other information about the Organization and its activities.

Strategy

23.15 Within the Department of Public Information, the responsibility for implementing the subprogramme lies primarily with the News and Media Division, which is assisted by the Office of the Spokesman of the Secretary-General, the Office of the Under-Secretary-General and the United Nations information centres and information services. The changing needs of news organizations, the convergence of traditional media with the Internet and the capacity of new technology for instantaneous global communication will allow the direct delivery to the news media worldwide of breaking news and media products, including news packages for television and radio (including live transmissions) and complete multimedia coverage of United Nations activities.

23.16 In order to ensure faster access to news and other information about the Organization, a multimedia Internet news service, backed by an email "news alert" service, direct delivery of radio broadcasts and the increased use of live radio and television feeds, will be developed. Video programming for use and dissemination over the Internet will also be developed.

23.17 In order to ensure adequate dissemination of objective information about peacekeeping operations and humanitarian assistance missions, an effective information capacity will be developed.

23.18 Radio remains one of the most cost-effective and far-reaching media available to the Organization for the dissemination of information. United Nations radio and its outputs will be made more immediately available directly to both listeners and the mass media. The Department, in the light of its experience in the pilot project for the development of an international radio broadcasting capacity and the decision thereon by Member States, will study the enhancement of its broadcasting capacity. The development of new communications technologies, such as webcasting, digital audio broadcasting, satellite distribution and direct satellite broadcasting, offer vast opportunities for widening the traditional reach of United Nations radio.

23.19 United Nations information centres will continue to remain an important conduit in the dissemination of information for a cross-section of people in Member States, particularly in the developing countries. In that context, the Department will consult Member States in which United Nations information centres were merged or closed, with a view to reviving those centres, as appropriate.

23.20 Work will continue on the development, enhancement and enrichment of the United Nations web site in all official languages, as well as of the United Nations information centre web sites in local languages, with the ultimate goal of accelerating the dissemination of information and data to a wider audience. In this regard, the Department will continue its work to achieve modular parity among the six official languages. The structure of the United Nations web site also will be rationalized to render it more user-friendly and flexible.

23.21 In order to cope effectively with the fast pace of technology, particular attention will be paid to modernizing the technical and physical requirements of television, radio and photographic coverage through a transition to digital technology in all media.

Expected accomplishments

23.22 The expected accomplishments by the end of the plan period would include an increase in coverage of the Organization's goals and activities by the media organizations around the world and an increase in public awareness about the issues addressed by the Organization, particularly the awareness of key audiences about peacekeeping operations; greater and faster access for media and other audiences to news emanating from the United Nations; a fuller news service through the further development and enhancement of the existing Daily Highlights; strengthened capacity of the Department for a rapid media response; capacity for effective delivery of high-quality audio, photo and video on demand; strengthened cooperation with international radio and television broadcasters for coverage of United Nations activities; and development of an effective information capacity.

Indicators of achievement

23.23 Indicators of achievement would include an increase in the number of accesses and links from external sites to the United Nations news sites; an increase in the size of audiences reached by redisseminating broadcasters and their geographical spread; an increase in factual, positive portrayals of the Organization's activities by mass media, including radio, television, newspapers and such evolving tools as the Internet; a review of the cases in which United Nations information centres were merged or closed, in consultation with the Member States concerned; an increase in the number of enquiries about and requests for news material; positive feedback from the media organizations on the relevance and timeliness of news material provided; and enhanced effectiveness of information capabilities in the field of peacekeeping operations.

Subprogramme 3
Library services

Objective

23.24 The objective of the subprogramme is to facilitate access to timely and up-to-date library products and services for use by delegates, permanent missions of Member States, the Secretariat, researchers and depository libraries worldwide.

Strategy

23.25 Responsibility for the subprogramme lies with the Library and Information Resources Division and the United Nations information centres and information services. By maintaining, preserving and making available an archival collection of United Nations documents, publications and oral history tapes and transcripts, the Division will facilitate access to and use of library services and supply bibliographic and factual information about the Organization and its work. The delivery of customized information directly to the users' desktops through Internet services will be expanded, and training to users (permanent missions, Secretariat staff and depository librarians) in the use of library services will be provided. In addition, access to commercially available electronic information services will be made available in a cost-effective way through the formation of a consortium of United Nations system organizations.

23.26 The capacity of the Dag Hammarskjöld Library will be increased through networking with other libraries. The United Nations depository libraries, numbering more than 350, will be further developed into effective channels of communication. The electronic delivery of documents to depository libraries will be promoted where feasible to ensure rapid, complete and cost-effective document distribution. The network of United Nations libraries sharing responsibility for the indexing and preservation of United Nations documents will be strengthened. Technical assistance will be provided in the development of a unified United Nations library system at the country level.

23.27 In-house production and processing of data, including the production and issuance of updated standards and guidelines for bibliographic control, the issuance of multilingual reference tools and the updating of indexing terminology in the six official languages, will continue to be improved. Furthermore, work on the conversion of older United Nations documents in all languages from microfiche and paper to digital format for the purpose of uploading to the optical disk system and the United Nations web site will continue.

23.28 The Internet site of the Library as a major source of United Nations information will be enriched and further developed to the maximum extent possible in all six official languages, with multilingual retrieval capabilities. The major database, the United Nations Bibliographic Information System (UNBIS), will also use the Internet as its main platform for dissemination to the public.

Expected accomplishments

23.29 Expected accomplishments of the subprogramme would include faster and greater access by users to products and services of the Library.

Indicators of achievement

23.30 Indicators of achievement would include an increase in the number of requests and enquiries for the products and services of the Library, an increase in the number of visitors to the Library's web page, positive feedback from participants in training programmes on the effective utilization of the services of the Library, and greater coordination among the depository libraries, information centres and United Nations system field offices.

Subprogramme 4
Publication services

Objective

23.31 The objective of this subprogramme is to increase readership of United Nations publications in all formats, to increase understanding of the breadth of its activities and to develop support for the Organization. The Department will improve the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of the Organization's publication and distribution processes.

Strategy

23.32 Responsibility for the subprogramme lies with the Library and Information Resources Division. The Division will provide publication services, including the development of policies and procedures for the production of print and electronic products, cartographic products, geographic information and graphic design as well as management of the publications programme. Increased use will be made of the evolving technology to improve the quality of graphic design and printing of all publications. The Publications Board will be strengthened so as to harmonize publication policies and to better monitor and coordinate the publication programme of the Organization.

23.33 The Division is responsible for the preparation and publication of the *Yearbook of the United Nations*, the *United Nations Chronicle*, *Africa Recovery* and *Development Business*. In addition to the printed versions, electronic access to the *United Nations Chronicle* and *Africa Recovery* web sites will be enhanced to increase readership. The *Yearbook of the United Nations* will also be made available for sale on CD-ROM. The availability of on-line subscriptions to *Development Business* will facilitate the timely dissemination of procurement opportunities and collaborative venture opportunities generated by projects implemented by organizations throughout the United Nations system.

23.34 Cartographic products and geographic information services in support of substantive activities of the Secretariat, including the requirements of the Security Council, will be provided. A common United Nations geographic database, to be made accessible through web server technology, will be established and maintained. Efforts to strengthen multilingualism in print and electronic media will be continued.

Expected accomplishments

23.35 An expected accomplishment would be a greater interest in United Nations publications.

Indicators of achievement

23.36 Indicators of achievement would include an increase in the number of subscriptions to United Nations publications and in the number of publications sold and an increase in the number of visitors to the web sites of United Nations publications.

Legislative mandates

Programme 23
Public information

General Assembly resolutions

1086 (XI)	Public information activities of the United Nations
2897 (XXVI)	Review and appraisal of the United Nations information policies and activities
3047 (XXVII)	Revenue-producing activities
33/115 A-C	Questions relating to information
34/182	Questions relating to information
53/25	International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World (2001-2010)
53/78 E	United Nations Disarmament Information Programme
53/90	Implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s
53/183	Implementation of the Programme of the International Conference on Population and Development
53/243 A-B	Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace
54/23	Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development
54/24	Follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons: a society for all ages
54/28	United Nations Decade of International Law
54/41	Special information programme on the question of Palestine of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat
54/64	Multilingualism
54/68	Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space
54/81	Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects
54/82 A-B	Questions relating to information
54/91	Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples
54/92	Dissemination of information on decolonization
54/113	United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations
54/120	Policies and programmes involving youth

54/121	Implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons: towards a society for all in the twenty-first century
54/122	United Nations literacy decade: education for all
54/124	Follow-up to the International Year of the Family
54/125	Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders
54/132	International cooperation against the world drug problem
54/134	International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women
54/141	Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action
54/150	International Decade of the World's Indigenous People
54/154	Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and the convening of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance
54/157	International Covenants on Human Rights
54/158	International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families
54/159	Elimination of all forms of religious intolerance
54/161	United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995-2004, and public information activities in the field of human rights
54/173	Strengthening the role of the United Nations in enhancing the effectiveness of the principle of periodic and genuine elections and the promotion of democratization
54/176	National institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights
54/206	Implementation of the commitments and policies agreed upon in the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, and implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade
54/208	Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)
54/218	Implementation of and follow-up to the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly
54/224	Implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

54/231	Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence
54/232	Implementation of the First United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty
54/235	Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s
54/248	Pattern of conferences (sect. E, Information technology)
54/249	Questions relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001

Programme 24
Management and central support services

Overall orientation

24.1 The overall objectives of this programme are to support the intergovernmental processes of the Organization by providing effective Secretariat support services to the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council, the Trusteeship Council and their subsidiary organs, as well as to various special conferences and meetings held under the auspices of the United Nations, and to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the Organization in managing its administrative, financial and human resources. The basic mandate derives from relevant articles of the Charter of the United Nations, specifically Articles 8, 17, 97, 100 and 101. In addition, the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations, the Staff Regulations and Rules, the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation (ST/SGB/2000/8), Assembly resolutions 41/213, 42/211 and the successive annual resolutions on the review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations, resolutions 52/12 A and B, 52/220, 53/221 and other relevant resolutions of the Assembly provide the basis for implementing this programme.

24.2 The overall strategy of the Department of Management in meeting the programme's objectives follows the Secretary-General's programme for reform adopted by the General Assembly in its resolutions 52/12 B and 52/220 and other relevant resolutions and decisions. The Department aims to strengthen the Secretariat's capacity to deliver the mandated programmes. Efforts to simplify procedures will continue, whenever possible and without adversely affecting the overall quality of services to be provided, in particular through the progressive upgrading of the technological capacity of the Secretariat, including determining how and where operations can best be carried out, while leaving central management to concentrate on policy development, guidance and monitoring of compliance. Attention will be paid to further strengthening the existing common and joint services and expanding and developing new common and joint services among the United Nations organizations wherever and whenever they would be the most efficient arrangement for providing support services. In this context, specific measures will be taken to strengthen the common services provided by the United Nations Office at Nairobi.

24.3 The Department of Management at Headquarters and the United Nations offices at Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi are responsible for the implementation of this programme and the achievement of its objectives.

Subprogramme 1
Management services

Objective

24.4 The objective of the subprogramme is to support the continued improvement of management and administration throughout the Secretariat.

Strategy

24.5 The substantive responsibility for this subprogramme is assigned to the strategic management policy team, or the Management Policy Committee, consisting of the Under-Secretary-General for Management and three Assistant Secretaries-General of the Department of Management, assisted by the Management Policy Office of the Department and the management of the United Nations offices at Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi. The Management Policy Committee will continue to ensure an integrated approach to implementing relevant General Assembly resolutions and decisions and to improving management throughout the Secretariat. To this end, effective reporting and monitoring systems will be established, appropriate accountability mechanisms will be put in place, processes, procedures and rules will be further simplified and streamlined and an effective planning and evaluation capacity, which will include performance measurement standards and analytical performance reports, will be developed. The Department will maintain effective communications and transparent consultations with Member States on the management improvement issues and ensure effective substantive support on those issues to the General Assembly and its relevant subsidiary organs.

24.6 In specific areas of the subprogramme, such as the management of financial assets and the administration of justice, attention will continue to focus on effective management of the financial resources available to the Organization and on facilitating the functioning of the internal justice system of the Secretariat through constant monitoring of established policies and procedures and the development of measures to protect the interests of the Organization and to safeguard its assets.

Expected accomplishments

24.7 Accomplishments would include management improvements that would reduce the burden of administration and ensure that programme managers effectively implement the mandated programmes while retaining full accountability.

Indicators of achievement

24.8 Indicators of achievement would be:

(a) The outcome of an evaluation by the General Assembly of the implementation of management reform in the Secretariat;

(b) The degree of satisfaction expressed by the Assembly and users of specific services provided by the Management Policy Office.

Subprogramme 2
Programme planning, budget and accounts

Objective

24.9 The major objective of the subprogramme is to facilitate intergovernmental deliberations by the General Assembly and decision-making on the issues of planning, programming, budgeting and accounts of the Organization and to ensure sound financial management of the Organization and the effective monitoring and management of its assets, including the provision of timely services to Secretariat and other users.

Strategy

24.10 Substantive responsibility for this subprogramme rests with the Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Accounts, with support from the related operational units of the United Nations offices at Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi. During the plan period, attention will be focused on strengthening budgetary and accounting policies and on the systematic strengthening of compliance and administration by the Secretariat with the Financial Regulations and Rules, the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation and other relevant policies and directives to ensure efficient use of the resources of the Organization. The translation of legislative mandates into plans and programme budgets and the application of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning to the regular budget, peacekeeping operation budgets, international tribunal budgets and extrabudgetary resources will be further improved to facilitate the effective management, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the Organization's activities and resources. Measures will also be taken to ensure accuracy and timeliness in meeting the Organization's financial obligations, in full compliance with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the Organization, in collecting, recording and processing relevant financial data and in further improving financial control and transparency in the presentation of the financial statements and the accounts of the Organization to the United Nations Board of Auditors. Special efforts will be made to fully exploit the potential of the Integrated Management Information System by further training staff and developing analytical reports to identify opportunities for servicing users better and on a timely basis.

Expected accomplishments

24.11 Accomplishments would include better implementation by departments and offices of the Secretariat with the Financial Regulations and Rules and the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning and General Assembly resolutions and decisions. Improved budgetary control and monitoring of expenditures would lead to effective and efficient resource use, to progressively reduced variances between the authorized resources and the final expenditures and to increased accuracy and timeliness of budgetary and financial reports. Users' needs would be met on a more timely basis.

Indicators of achievement

24.12 Indicators of achievement would be:

(a) The audit opinion of the United Nations Board of Auditors on the financial statements of the United Nations;

(b) The availability of budgetary documents and financial reports by the required dates;

(c) The satisfaction of users with regard to the quality and timeliness of services rendered, including payroll, insurance, invoices and claims processing;

(d) Improved application of the Financial Regulations and Rules, the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning and other approved budgetary procedures and guidelines for the regular budget, peacekeeping budgets, and extrabudgetary resources and budgets of Tribunals, in accordance and in full compliance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions and decisions.

Subprogramme 3
Human resources management

Objective

24.13 The primary objective of this subprogramme is to continue to develop and sustain a quality human resources management system that ensures that the Secretariat can carry out its functions efficiently and effectively.

Strategy

24.14 Substantive responsibility for this subprogramme rests with the Office of Human Resources Management, with support from the relevant organizational units of the United Nations offices away from Headquarters. During the plan period, the strategy will be focused, in particular, on comprehensive, expeditious and systematic recruitment, placement and career development policies; strategic planning; competency and skill development; improved conditions of service; the progressive establishment and implementation of a system of staff performance recognition; and a well-designed mechanism of staff accountability and responsibility at all levels. In order to delegate authority to the heads of departments and offices for the administrative functions relating to human resources management, a well-designed mechanism of accountability would be put in place in accordance with General Assembly resolution 53/221 while the role of the Office of Human Resources Management as a central authority for formulating policies, planning and monitoring will continue and will be reinforced. The Office will ensure full compliance with the Assembly resolutions and decisions on human resources management. Attention will also continue to be paid to enhancing the internal system of justice.

Expected accomplishments

24.15 Secretariat staff would be highly motivated, their skills would be carefully matched to tasks, they would be up to date with respect to current technology and issues, and they would be led by performance-oriented managers.

Indicators of achievement

24.16 Indicators of achievement would be:

(a) A reduction in the amount of time required to process major human resources actions, including recruitment, transfers and separations;

(b) More versatile, multi-skilled staff and enhanced managerial capacity;

(c) Improved geographical distribution as reflected in the composition of the Secretariat;

(d) The degree of satisfaction expressed by users with regard to the quality and timeliness of services, including training;

(e) Establishment of a proper system of accountability, transparency and responsibility, as well as improvement of the existing system of administration of justice, as an integral part of the human resources management reform process;

(f) Effective implementation of relevant General Assembly resolutions and decisions on human resources management.

Subprogramme 4
Support services

Objective

24.17 The main objective of this subprogramme is: (a) to ensure continued efficient, effective and high-quality support to substantive programmes in the areas of security and safety, information technology, information management, procurement, travel and transportation, facilities management, archives and record management and management of commercial activities; (b) to ensure efficient Secretariat support services to the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council, the Trusteeship Council and their subsidiary organs when they are in session and to the special conferences and meetings held under the auspices of the United Nations; and (c) to facilitate, through the provision of information and documentation, the deliberations of the General Assembly and its relevant subsidiary organs on specific support services issues under their review. Within the context of the Secretary-General's management reforms, this subprogramme also covers the strengthening of the existing common and joint services and the expansion and development of new common and joint services among the United Nations organizations.

Strategy

24.18 The responsibility for implementation of this subprogramme rests with the Office of Central Support Services at Headquarters and the relevant operational units of the United Nations offices at Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi. The overall strategy for meeting the subprogramme's objectives will revolve around the close cooperation of the service providers with the various departments and offices at Headquarters and the offices away from Headquarters. The strategy will be based on the adoption of a service-oriented approach stressing timeliness, efficiency, cost-effectiveness and quality, through:

(a) The development of security strategies and training programmes and the enforcement of common security standards to provide a safe and secure work environment for the delegates, staff and visiting dignitaries on the premises of the United Nations;

(b) The development and implementation of a long-term strategy for information technology with a view to harmonizing the information technology infrastructure at all duty stations and improving information management;

(c) The effective implementation of procurement reform as mandated by the relevant General Assembly resolutions;

(d) The maintenance of efficient and cost-effective travel and transportation services, in particular through close cooperation with other United Nations system organizations;

(e) The efficient and cost-effective management of all existing physical facilities of the Organization, in particular through their systematic maintenance and timely renovation;

(f) The progressive upgrading of archive management, in particular through the application of advanced information technology and the gradual conversion of the service into a common service archival research centre for use by Member States, United Nations organizations and various other organizations and institutions.

24.19 Efforts will be made to enhance and expand a system of common services through the launching of cooperative efforts and the establishment of inter-organizational networking between the United Nations and organizations of the United Nations system.

Expected accomplishments

24.20 Accomplishments within the scope of this subprogramme would include improved security and safety conditions on United Nations premises, a higher-level technological environment in the Organization, simplified, transparent and more effective administrative procedures in the areas of procurement, travel and transportation and information management, better physical condition of United Nations premises, an improved working environment for delegations and staff and more effective archives and other common services provided to users.

Indicators of achievement

24.21 Indicators of achievement would be:

(a) The outcome of an evaluation by the General Assembly of the level and scope of the specific support services provided at Headquarters and at the United Nations offices at Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi;

(b) The degree of satisfaction expressed by users of specific services in response to surveys solicited by the Office of Central Support Services and the United Nations offices at Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi.

Legislative mandates

Subprogramme 1
Management services

General Assembly resolutions

41/213	Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations
42/211	Implementation of General Assembly resolution 41/213
52/12 A-B	Renewing the United Nations: a programme for reform
52/220	Questions relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999
54/249	Questions relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001

Subprogramme 2
Programme planning, budget and accounts

General Assembly resolutions

49/233	Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations
54/249	Questions relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001

Subprogramme 3
Human resources management

General Assembly resolutions

49/222 A-B	Human resources management
51/226	Human resources management
52/252	Revisions to article I of the Staff Regulations and chapter I of the 100 series of the Staff Rules of the United Nations
53/221	Human resources management
54/139	Improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat
54/249	Questions relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001

Subprogramme 4
Support services

General Assembly resolution

54/14	Procurement reform

Programme 25
Internal oversight

Overall orientation

25.1 The overall purpose of the programme is to enhance effectiveness in the implementation of all programmes through continually improved internal control mechanisms within the Organization. The mandate for the programme derives from the responsibility of the Secretary-General as the chief administrative officer of the United Nations, entrusted to him under Article 97 of the Charter of the United Nations. The mandates specific to his responsibility for internal oversight derive from General Assembly resolutions 48/218 B and 54/244, the relevant provisions of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations and of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation (ST/SGB/2000/8). Within the Secretariat, substantive responsibility for the programme is vested in the Office of Internal Oversight Services, which assists the Secretary-General in fulfilling his internal oversight responsibilities in respect of the resources and staff of the Organization.

25.2 The strategy for meeting the programme's objectives is based on the need to help Member States and the Organization ensure the compliance of programme activities with resolutions, regulations, rules and policies; the more efficient and effective delivery of the Organization's activities; the achievement of better results by determining all factors affecting the efficient and effective implementation of programmes; and the prevention and detection of fraud, waste, abuse, malfeasance or mismanagement. In carrying out its work, the overall approach of the Office is aimed at: (a) enhancing management of both human and financial resources of the Organization; (b) facilitating more transparent assignment of responsibility and accountability; (c) improving the systems of internal control by monitoring the compliance of oversight recommendations; and (d) protecting the assets of the Organization.

25.3 The Office would also coordinate its activities with the Board of Auditors of the United Nations and the Joint Inspection Unit in order to ensure adequate internal oversight coverage while avoiding duplication. In the same manner, the Office would maintain a close working relationship with other inspection and oversight services in the United Nations system.

25.4 The General Assembly provides direction for implementation of this programme.

Subprogramme 1
Central evaluation

Objective

25.5 The objective of this subprogramme is: (a) to enable intergovernmental bodies to determine as systematically and objectively as possible the efficiency and effectiveness of the Organization's activities in relation to their objectives; and (b) to enable the Secretariat and Member States to engage in systematic reflections with a view to increasing the effectiveness of the main programmes of the Organization.

Strategy

25.6 Within the Office of Internal Oversight Services, substantive responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in the Central Evaluation Unit. The Unit will conduct evaluations that facilitate an assessment by intergovernmental bodies of the relevance, effectiveness and impact of outputs and activities against the objectives of a programme or subprogramme. The Unit will utilize baseline data and indicators of progress to assess programme impact in terms of the objectives and will identify and analyse the factors associated with effectiveness, implementation and impact. The Unit will also assist departments and offices in the Secretariat in implementing evaluation recommendations approved by the General Assembly and in developing their own self-evaluation activities. The Unit will conduct workshops and provide training on evaluation at the request of departments and offices, and in other ways support self-evaluation.

Expected accomplishments

25.7 Expected accomplishments would consist of improvements in helping intergovernmental organs to determine the relevance, efficiency and effectiveness of the mandated programmes and activities.

Indicators of achievement

25.8 Indicators of achievement would include: (a) the number of evaluation recommendations approved by pertinent intergovernmental bodies that had been implemented by programme managers; (b) better coordination with external oversight bodies; (c) the quality of evaluation recommendations and their contribution towards a better analysis of the implementation and effectiveness of programmes by intergovernmental bodies; and (d) the quality and extent of self-evaluations conducted by programme managers.

Subprogramme 2
Audit and management consulting

Objective

25.9 The primary objective of the subprogramme is to ensure efficient and effective implementation and management of programmes, activities and operations by programme managers in accordance with the relevant legislative mandates.

Strategy

25.10 Within the Office of Internal Oversight Services, substantive responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in the Audit and Management Consulting Division. The Division will examine, review and appraise the use of financial resources in order to ensure the implementation of programmes and legislative mandates; ascertain compliance of programme managers with the financial and administrative regulations and rules as well as with the approved recommendations of external oversight bodies; undertake management audits, reviews and surveys to improve the structure of the Organization and its responsiveness to the requirements of programmes and legislative mandates; monitor the effectiveness of the systems of internal control of the Organization; and ensure proper management of the Organization's assets and resources. The Division will assist programme managers in strengthening their accountability and internal control framework through the identification of best practices and opportunities presented by the changing circumstances.

Expected accomplishments

25.11 Expected accomplishments would include greater compliance with General Assembly directives, established regulations, rules, policies and procedures; enhancement of transparency and accountability within the Organization; and increased efficiency.

Indicators of achievement

25.12 Indicators of achievement would include: (a) the number of audit recommendations implemented by programme managers; (b) a more effective use of financial resources in order to guarantee the implementation of programmes and mandates and more effective procedures; (c) the level of recovery of erroneous or unauthorized expenditures; and (d) better coordination with external oversight bodies.

Subprogramme 3
Central monitoring and inspection

Objective

25.13 The objective of the subprogramme is to strengthen programme implementation by monitoring the delivery and output of the programmes and to determine whether they are adequate, timely and in accordance with the mandates, whether they address effectively the objectives of the programmes and whether resources are used efficiently.

Strategy

25.14 Within the Office of Internal Oversight Services, responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in the Central Monitoring and Inspection Unit. The Unit will monitor changes made during the biennium in the programme of work as set out in the programme budget and, at the end of the biennium, will determine the actual progress made towards achieving the objectives and expected accomplishments through the delivery of final output in comparison with the objectives set out in the programme narratives of the approved programme budget. The Unit will examine whether activities correspond to mandates and the reasons for postponement, reformulation, termination or addition. The Unit will assist programme managers in improving managerial and programmatic efficiency by undertaking ad hoc reviews (inspections) to help them to identify problems affecting the effective and efficient delivery of their outputs. To ensure that recommended corrective measures are implemented, the Unit will conduct follow-up reviews. The Unit will also provide guidelines and best practices on performance reporting to programme managers in order to help them to identify problems affecting the effective and efficient implementation of their work programmes.

Expected accomplishments

25.15 Expected accomplishments would include more effective monitoring by programme managers of the implementation of activities; reporting thereon to the General Assembly through the Committee for Programme and Coordination; and more timely programme delivery.

Indicators of achievement

25.16 The indicators of achievement would include an increase in the adoption by programme managers of monitoring procedures and work plans to follow progress made towards achieving accomplishments; the level of compliance by programme managers with inspection recommendations; and the submission of reports in a timely manner in accordance with rule 6.3 of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation.

Subprogramme 4
Investigations

Objective

25.17 The objective of this subprogramme is to ensure compliance with regulations and rules of the United Nations and to minimize the occurrence of fraud, violations of regulations and rules of the United Nations, mismanagement, misconduct, waste of resources and abuse of authority.

Strategy

25.18 Within the Office, substantive responsibility is vested in the Investigations Section. The Section will investigate reported allegations of fraud, misconduct, mismanagement, waste of resources, abuse of authority, violations of regulations and rules of the United Nations and other malfeasance. On the basis of its findings, the Section will recommend the jurisdictional, disciplinary or other corrective action that should be taken. The Section will also assess the potential for fraud and other violations in high-risk operations through the analysis of control systems and will recommend action to be taken in order to minimize the risk of occurrence of such violations. In addition, in case of need and when appropriate, the Section will provide investigative services to the funds and programmes of the United Nations.

Expected accomplishments

25.19 Expected accomplishments would include better protection of the Organization's assets and resources and greater compliance with the regulations and rules of the Organization.

Indicators of achievement

25.20 Indicators of achievement would include a better quality of investigative functions in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 48/218 B and 54/244; faster detection of violations; increased demand for investigative services; and increased level of recovery of financial resources that had been misappropriated

Legislative mandates

Programme 25
Internal oversight

General Assembly resolutions

48/218 B	Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations
53/207	Programme planning
54/236	Programme planning
54/244	Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 48/218 B